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Original Pictures of Life.

THE PET FROM THE POOR HOUSE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

BY MRS. ANN S. STEPHENS,

AUTHOR OF "MALINA GRAY," "DAVID HUNT," ETC., ETC.

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CONTINUED.

CHAPTER X.

The grey morning dawned gloomily on Chester's desolated home. Isabella awoke and looked around with dull and heavy eyes. The beauty of her young face was clouded by a night of sharp anxiety and broken rest. Mary sat opposite, leaning with both elbows on the table, and regarding the poor child with a haggard and sorrowful countenance.

"Has he not come back—oh, Mary, is he not here yet?"

Mary shook her head. "I have been awake all night, every moment. He has not been here!"

"And I—how could I sleep; my poor father away, and mamma so ill. I did not think that anything could make me sleep at such a time, Mary?"

"But you were so tired; oh, I was glad when your head dropped on the table; it looked so pitiful to see you growing paler and paler, while she kept muttering to herself. I was glad that you could sleep at all, Isabella."

"I feel now as if I should never sleep again," replied the child, looking at the covered plate where her father's supper had been standing all night. "He will never come back, Mary Fuller, I feel sure of it now!"

Mary did not answer—she only covered her eyes with one hand and sat still.

Isabella, took her feet off the covered plate in both her hands and placed it in the cupboard, weeping bitterly; this act showed even pleasier than her words that she really did not expect to see her father again. She crept back to Mary, and leaning upon her shoulder began to cry with low and suppressed passion. Poor thing, it is a hard lesson when childhood first learns to curb its natural grief.

"What shall we do, Mary," whispered the poor child, burying her wet face upon the deformed shoulder that received its burden unshrinkingly; "oh, what can we do?"

"Isabella," said Mary, solemnly, "what should we do—if your father never came?"

"He is dead—or very, very sick—I am sure of that; what else could keep him from home, and mamma calling on him so pitifully? Mary, I am sure that he is dead; we shall never, never see him again!" and with a burst of terrible grief the poor child flung her arms around Mary Fuller, and sank to the floor, almost dragging the little deformed with her. "Mary, he is dead—he is dead!"

"Who is dead—who is dead, I say? Why do you crowd the room with people; oh, each people, all in loose clothes—scarlet, gold, purple, green—why do you not send them away?" raved the poor child of Mrs. Chester, and there was a rustling of the bed-clothes, as if she were trying to cast them from her.

The children held their breath, and cowered close together. Again Mrs. Chester spoke,

"Leave the chairs, leave them, leave them; I did not tell you to drive the children away. Chester, Chester, they are taking our children off. Isabella—Mary Fuller, come back!"

"I am here—no one shall take me away," said Mary Fuller, bending over the bed; "Isabella, too, is close by your pillow—she has been crying to see you so sick; do not mind her eyes, they will grow bright again when you are well!"

Mrs. Chester started up in the bed, a moment of consciousness seemed to come over her—she looked at Mary and at Isabella, and spoke to them in a whisper, leaning half out of bed—

"Girls, where is he? tell me now, Mary, that's a good little girl—what have they done with him?"

The children looked at each other, and Isabella began to sob.

"How long is it since I went to sleep? he was here then, you know?" said the invalid.

"Only a little while!" answered Mary, quickly. "You have not slept long."

"Oh, I thought—but then people will dream such things—I say, just tell me that he will be back soon—can't you tell me that, little folks?"

"Lie down, there, now take a glass of ice-water, and I will go after him," said Mary, exerting all her little strength to persuade the invalid back to her pillow.

"Ice, ice! give me a whole handful—no water, but clear cold ice!"

And they gave it to her; in her burning hands and her parched mouth they placed the crystal coldness; it slaked the burning fever. It melted in her hand, dripping in soft rain down her arms and over her bosom, where the hand lay clinched tightly upon its cool treasure. With her white teeth she crushed the diamond fragments in her mouth, and laughed to feel the drops flowing down her throat.

"Now, Mary, little Mary Fuller, go and tell him that I am wide awake, and waiting for him! Go now, while the ice is plenty, he shall have a share."

"I will go!" said Mary, and drawing Isabella from the room she told her to stay close by her mother, to give her anything she wanted—and while giving the directions she put on her hood and shawl.

"I will find him; I will not come back without news; but, oh, Isabella, I have little hope of anything but news that will kill her, and almost kill us; I would not say this, but it has been in my heart since ten o'clock last night. I was all alone, and—don't cry again, Isabella—it seemed to me as if he died then!"

Isabella turned very pale, and she gazed upon Mary in terrible silence.

"And I was asleep then!" she said in a voice of self reproach.

"Hush!" said the deformed, gently, "in our sleep we must be nearest to Heaven; why should you feel bad because you were closer to him than I was?"

"I—I dreamed of him!" answered Isabella, as if struck by some sudden remembrance, and her eyes so heavy the moment before, lighted up, "I dreamed of him!"

"And what did you dream, tell me that, Isabella—what did you dream?"

"I don't know all—but he was away in such a beautiful, beautiful place; the hills were all purple and gold and crimson with light—no flowers or something that made them more lovely than anything you ever saw and eyes on. The streets were so clear that you could see down, down into the water—and the banks, all covered with flowers, seemed to slope down and line the bottom with soft colors that broke up through; it was all shifting and rolling before me like a cloud. But as true as you live, Mary, I saw my father there, and—you—now I am sure—mamma was with him—she was, Mary Fuller; and so you see they will meet again, if there is anything in dreams. You will find him, I am sure you will find him. Oh, Mary, I am so glad that I fell asleep, while you were watching!"

Mary did not speak, but there her arms around the beautiful, and now animated child—oh, hope springs so readily to the young heart—hoping her tendency belong she went forth.

"It was a sweet dream!" she murmured, going down the stairs; "I had many such when my father died. I suppose God sends them to comfort little children when He makes orphans of them—but mother! I never saw my mother and him together; oh, if I had but seen that only once!" and Mary Fuller paused into the street, pursuing her mournful errand with a mournful spirit. "I will go," she said, communing with herself; "I will go first to the chief's office—Mr. Chester took away the star and book in his pocket, I saw that. They must know something of him at the chief's office;" and she bent her way to the Park.

It was a bright spring morning, the fog that had hung upon the city over night, was swept westward by the sun, and lay upon the horizon in a host of fleecy clouds. The trees around the Park fountain and the City Hall, were in the first tender green of their foliage, and the damp night had left them vivid with moisture, through which the sun was shining. The fountain was in full force at the time, shooting up its columns of diamond spray to the very tree tops, and woven with the sunshine that lacked the myriads and myriads of liquid threads together, with a rainbow that seemed to tremble and break every instant, but always to shine out again brighter than before. The rush and hum of the waters, the raining down of the cool and broken spray; the soft shiver of the leaves and the young grass just peeping from the earth all around, were enough to make happy heart beat lighter too fold under the influence of so much beauty. But the poor little homebluck looked upon the scene with a heavy eye—all the fresh growth of nature seemed but to mock her as she passed through it. She would have gathered the flowers to convey the sweet air that swept so prodigally by her face, or the close room of Mrs. Chester. It seemed like a sin to breathe that delicious spring breeze, while she lay panting on her fever couch!

The chief received the little girl very kindly, and gave her all the information he possessed regarding Chester; but that was very little, only stating half an hour from the time the unhappy one left home. Mary turned away with an aching heart—where should she go? of whom might he inquire? The broad city was before her, but a what part should her search be directed?

Mary crossed the Park and moved down toward the corner of Ann street. She paused for a moment, pondering over the heavy doubt in her mind, when a cart guarded by two policemen, and followed by a crowd, passed by them. Some one over which an odd blanket had been flung, drew Mary Fuller's heart close to her breast as the rude wheels passed her, for it seemed as if she could detect the outline of a human form beneath the blanket. She started, and followed the cart. It rolled slowly up Broadway and turned into Chamber street—along the whole length of the old Alms House buildings it went, and still the little girl followed after—trembling in every limb and scarcely drawing a full breath.

The cart stopped at a point nearest to that building, where the unrecognized dead are carried. The two policemen drew away the old blanket, and here, outstretched upon a piece of carpet, Mary saw her benefactor. She moved slowly forward, she clung with her cold hands to the side of the cart and bent her eyes upon that still, white face. The sunshine poured fully upon it, and the breeze swept back from that marble forehead the bright hair that she had seen Mr. Chester arrange so often. It might have been the sunshine—or pet lips that fled, "who careth for the fall of a sparrow," had left a smile upon those white lips to comfort the little girl; for it is in small things often that the goodness of our Heavenly Father is most visible.

"He is smiling—oh, he smiles on me," cried the child, with a burst of tears, lifting her face to the policeman, with a look that went to his heart. "He did not smile like that not since his birth-day," and overcome with all the sweet recollections of that day of the child covered her face and wept aloud, while the bystanders stood lost in wonder, gazing upon her.

"Did you know this man?" questioned one of the officers, addressing the child, and motioning the driver to be quiet, for he had other work to do, and was in haste to get the body of Chester into the dead house.

"Did I know him?" repeated the child, looking up through her tears with an expression of wonder that he should ask the question. "Did I know him?"

"If you did," rejoined the man, "tell us his name and perhaps we need not carry him in there."

"In where?" said the child, looking wildly at the building to which the man pointed. "That is not his home."

"No, it is the dead house," replied the man.

"The dead house!" repeated the child, and her lips grew pale with horror. "And must he go there?"

"Not if you can point out his home, perhaps he is your father?"

"He was more than that—he was—oh, sir, you do not know how good he was to me!"

"Well, what was his name—if you can tell us that, and take us to his house we will drive there at once. The coroner has seen him, there is nothing to prevent!"

"His name, sir," answered the little girl, making a brave effort to speak calmly. "His name was John Chester. He was in the police and lived up in the Nineteenth Ward."

"John Chester! that is the man who held the place that Smith has got this very morning. I saw him at the Mayor's office not half an hour ago with the appointment in his hand," said the officer, addressing his companion.

"Poor fellow, poor fellow, it was a hard case!" and the policeman reverently settled the body upon the cart and bade the driver go to the chief's office and bring a cloak which he had left there.

While the man was absent there came along Chamber street two persons walking close together and conversing earnestly. They were passing the cart without seeming to heed its mournful burden, when Mary Fuller looked up and saw them, a faint cry broke from her lips, her eyes kindled through the tears that filled them, and drawing her hood form almost upright, she stood directly before the gate through which the Mayor and his companion, the Alderman of the Nineteenth, were about to pass on their way to the City Hall.

"Sir," she said, with solemn dignity, pointing with one pale and trembling finger toward the cart, "turn and look!" The Mayor at last stepped back, for the sight of that little creature was lovely some to him, but there was that in her attitude and in her eye which he could not resist, and spite of himself he turned as her finger directed, and his eyes fell upon the dead form of Chester. For an instant his face changed, a paler stole over his lips, and he trembled in the presence of the wronged dead, but he was a man whose emotion never conquered long, and turning coldly from the child he went up to the cart and addressed the policeman in charge of the corpse—"How and where did this man die?" he said, in his usual cold voice.

"He died in the street—alone upon a pier unfrequented after dark. Last night somewhere between nine o'clock and morning was the time. The coroner renders in his verdict homicide of the image."

"He died," said the little girl, solemnly gazing upon the dead, "he died of a broken heart. I knew that it was breaking, and that he would not live long when he left to last night."

"Men do not die of broken hearts in these days," said the Mayor, turning away. "It is only women and children that talk of such things. See," he continued, addressing the officer, "that the body is taken to his house and properly cared for. This should be a warning to all in your department, sir." The policeman bit his lip and his eyes flashed, the only answer that he made was given in a stern voice, "I will do my duty, sir!" and the Mayor passed on, joining his companion. The ruddy face of the Alderman was many shades paler than usual, and his voice faltered as he addressed the Mayor. "This is very shocking. If I had known that it would end so, I for one would have had nothing to do with it!"

"I am sorry that you are dissatisfied!" answered his honor, coldly. "The case you brought against the man seemed a very clear one—nothing could have been stronger than the evidence, otherwise with all my disposition to serve you, I should not have acted as I did."

The Alderman paused in profound astonishment, his eyes wide open, and his heavy lips parted—gazing upon the impassive form of his friend.

"But, sir, but—" he could not go on, the profound composure of the Mayor paralized him—he really began to think that the wretched man, innocent man's death rested with himself, that he had altogether misunderstood his honor from the first.

Having deepened and settled this conviction upon his conscience-stricken dupe by a lengthened and grave silence, the Mayor added, coolly,

"In political life, these things must be expected; of course no one is responsible for the casualties that may occur—no doubt this man was consumptive long before you ever saw him!"

"I wish that he had never crossed my path, at any rate," replied the Alderman, almost sternly. "To my dying day I shall never forget that face! I do not know, I cannot think, how I was ever led into persecuting him. Smith wanted the appointment, true enough, and he had done something toward my election, but so had fifty others, how on earth did I ever come to take all this interest in his claim?"

An expression that was almost a smile stole over the Mayor's lip, as he received this compliment to his consummate craft, and the two passed on.

Meantime, the policeman returned from the chief's office with a cloak, which was placed reverently over the body of poor Chester. The little girl crept upon the cart, and lifting the marble head in her lap, she began to arrange the hair upon that cold forehead as the poor wife had loved to see it best, and so the cart moved on with its mournful load.

How sad and heavy was that young creature's heart, as she drew near the once happy home.—They stopped by the door.

"Let me! oh, let me," said the child, "go up first. It will kill them to see him all of a sudden, in this way!"

The driver had lost much time, but he could not resist the touching appeal of that poor child.

"It is a dreadful thing," he said,—"let her go up first."

Mary gently removed that pale head from her lap, and went into the house. Heavy was her heart, and heavy was her step, as she mounted the stairs. She paused at the door. Her hand trembled upon the latch; her strength was giving way before the terrible trial that awaited her. But she heard them below lifting the heavy burden, and the heavy cloak sweeping along the hall, and with fear that it would all come upon poor Mrs. Chester while she was unprepared by a word, she turned the latch and went in.

The chamber was empty. Mary ran to the little bed-room. It was as still as a grave. The tumbled bed was unoccupied; the bed-clothes trailing half upon the floor. Upon the stand was a glass of water, and a muslin cap, crushed in a heap, and half soaked through by the water that dripped from a large of ice lying near the tumbler. The loose night-dress which Mrs. Chester had worn, lay trailing across the door sill, and a pillow rested upon the side of the bed, indented in the centre, as if some one sitting upon the door had rested against it.

When the three men came in, bearing Chester's body between them, Mary stood gazing upon these things in speechless and pale astonishment.

"They are gone," she said, turning her wild eyes upon the men. "Oh, God must have told her what was coming, and she cared for the fall of a sparrow," and left a smile upon those white lips to comfort the little girl; for it is in small things often that the goodness of our Heavenly Father is most visible.

"Mary Fuller!" said the man, turning to her with a look of deep and reproachful tenderness, "I thought you had left us!"

"Left you, sir, when my poor father was in this condition! Mary looked up eagerly through her tears.

"Oh, you don't know how I prayed, and prayed that God would only take me, and let him live!" she said. "But He wouldn't, He wouldn't, here I am, stronger than ever, and there he is!"

The boy sat still and moved, with his eyes bent on the floor.

"It does seem strange," he said, after a time,—"but then God ought to know best, because He knows every thing."

"I said that to myself, when I sat on the cart, with his head in my lap," answered Mary.

"I dare say Mr. Chester was as good to every body that God thought he had done enough, and ought to be in Heaven, and perhaps He has a great deal for you to do, yet, little and weak as you seem. I shouldn't wonder!"

"What could I do, compared to him?" answered Mary, meekly.

"I don't know, I am sure, but I dare say that God does," replied the boy.

Mary did not answer. Oppressed by the mournful solitude of the place, were not by long watching and excitement, she could hardly find strength to speak. Still it was a comfort to have the lone boy in the same room, and his gentle efforts at consolation fell soothingly on her feelings.

"That—that is Isabella's step," she said, at length, lifting her eyes, and fixing them upon the door. "How slow—how heavy. She is alone, too. Oh, Benjy, do not go away; I cannot bear to tell her yet."

"I will stay!" said the boy.

The door opened, and Isabella came in. The lovely child was hardly beautiful then. Her cheeks were pale, her eyes heavy and swollen, and the raven hair fell in dishevelled waves over her shoulders. She crossed the room to where the two sat in silence, and seating herself wearily on the floor, laid her head in Mary's lap.

"She is gone, Mary, I cannot find her any where," said the child. "I have been walking, walking, walking, and no mother—no father. I don't know where I have been, Mary—I don't know what I said to the people, but they couldn't tell me any thing about them!"

"Poor Isabella!—poor little Isabella!" said Mary, laying her thin hand upon the child's head, and turning her mournful look on the crippled boy, as he met the glance with a sorrowful shake of the head.

"I am worn out, Mary. It seemed to me a little while ago, that I was dying—and if it hadn't been for thinking that you would lie left alone, I should have been glad of it!"

"Oh, don't, Isabella, don't talk in that way!" said Mary, and her tears fell, "you are tired and hungry—oh, she must be hungry," and Mary looked at the lame boy. "See how the shadows are slanting this way, and she hasn't tasted a mouthful since last night!"

"I don't know; I hadn't thought of it—but I believe I am hungry!" and the big tears rolled in this way."

The driver had lost much time, but he could not resist the touching appeal of that poor child.

"No, he answered, "she can't be expected to stand it as we should. I hope you have got something for her to eat; we haven't a mouthful up stairs, I'm sure."

Mary went to the cupboard. It was empty—not a crust was there save the supper which had been put away for poor Chester the night before. Mary hesitated—it seemed terrible to offer that food to the poor child, but there was nothing else. Mary went up to Isabella and whispered to her—

"Have you a sixpence—have you only a penny or two left of the money?"

"No," replied Isabella, with a sob. "I spent the last for ice, and when I came back with it, she wasn't in the room. I flung the ice on the stand and ran out into the street after her, but you know how it was—she has gone like him."

Mary turned toward the cupboard; she placed the cold supper on another plate, and bringing it forth, spread a fine cloth upon the table, and placed a knife and fork.

"Come," she said, bending over the sorrow-stricken child. "Isabella, dear, get up, and try if you can eat this—it will give you strength."

The child stood, put back the dishevelled hair that had fallen over her face, and sat down by the table. She took up the knife and fork, but as her heavy eyes fell upon the contents of the plate, she laid them down again.

"Oh, Mary, I mustn't eat that; he may come home yet, and I should be sick if I have to give him!"

Again the lame boy and Mary exchanged glances—both were pale, and in the soft eyes of the boy there glistened, for the first time that day, a tear. He beckoned Mary to him, and whispered—

"Don't let her eat any thing! if these men come back while she is hoping on, it will kill her."

Mary stood for a moment, mustering strength for this new trial; then she crept slowly up to Isabella's chair, and laid her thin arm around the child's neck. The poor creature trembled, and the low speech of Mary Fuller trembled more painfully still.

"Isabella, your father will never want food again—they have brought him home—and he is lying in our own little room."

"Asleep?" said Isabella, starting to her feet, while a flash of wild joy came to her face.

"No, Isabella, he is dead!"

Isabella sunk motionless. Her arms sunk, her pained lips grew white, and closed slowly together. The life seemed freezing in her young veins.

"Come, and you shall see how he smiles, Isabella, it is like sleep, only more beautiful," and Mary drew the unresisting child into the chamber, her of death; chilled with grief and shivering with awe, Isabella gazed upon her father, the tears upon her cheek seemed freezing; then a feeble shudder passed over her limbs and after the first long gaze she turned her eyes upon Mary with a look of deep and helpless misery. Mary wreathed her arms around the child, and her tears fell like rain, while the expression that lay upon her lip was full of holy sweetness.

"Isabella, dear, let us kneel down and say our prayers, he can hear us yet."

"Yet!" broke from Isabella's pale lips, and she shook her head.

"Heaven is but a little way off," answered Mary; "you said I have both got a father there now."

The two little girls knelt down together, and truly it seemed as if that marble face caught upon them.

The door was closed between them and the outer room where the little crippled boy sat. He heard the low tone of their voices; he heard sobs and a passionate outbreak of sorrow; he heard these die and ebb mournfully away, and then arose a low silvery voice, deep, clear, angel-like, and with it came the words of a prayer, the words were simple in their pathos,—the language such as springs from the heart of a child when it overflows with love and tears. The crippled boy bent his head reverently, his musk blue eyes filled with unshed drops. He grasped his slender crutch—his hand slid softly down the smooth wood, and the little creature sunk to his knees and wept, softly, as he listened.

Thus the children were found a little time after, when an undertaker came by orders of the Chief of Police to prepare the dead for honorable burial. Following his example, a few noble fellows about his office had contributed out of their pay, and thus poor Chester was saved from a pauper's grave.

A little before night they carried the noble dead out through the hall that his light foot had trod so often. Behind him went those two little girls, hand in hand, looking very sorrowful, but weeping no longer. Upon Mary's head was an old but well kept mourning bonnet—a little too large—which the lame boy had brought down from the scant wardrobe of his widowed mother, and around Isabella's little straw cottage lay a band of black crape, which had served his mother in her mourning as a neck tie. The boy watched them from his window as long as these mournfully obscure could be seen, and then crept to his own home, comforted in his sorrow by the humble acts of kindness that had mitigated the sorrow of others.

In this world, let no man say that he is so humble or so helpless that he has no power to contribute something to the happiness of others—poor and feeble and lame was that crippled child, but still his mother's old bonnet and the scrap of crape had cast one gleam of comfort on the misery of those orphans mourners.

CHAPTER XI.

Disease, thou art a fearful thing
When, half disarmed by household care,
Thou creepest with thy gloom a wing
O'er the loved forms to which we cling
And, bending to the sweet and fair,
Leave thy corroding mildew there!
But if thou tread'st the pile-dowed track,
Where poverty has swept before,
Leaving his victim on the rack,
There, then, thou art a demon black,
That crouls within the poor man's door,
Crushing his hopes forever more!

And Jane Chester—where was she while strangers were bearing away the husband of her youth to his lone grave? Amid her fever that day—amid all her delirium, one idea had been vivid and prominent before her. The woman's heart remained true to its anchorage amid the storm and fire of approaching ship-fever—long after reason had failed, the love that was stronger than reason told her that some great evil was befalling her husband. Time was to her a vague thing; she thought that he had been gone for weeks—that he was seeking for her and the children along the wharves and in the dim alleys of the city, and that the Mayor had forbidden him to come home. She would seek him—she would take food and clean garments to him in the street. He should not wander there so poverty-stricken and neglected, without her. In defiance of the Mayor, in defiance of the whole world, she would go to him.

This thought ran through her burning brain, and trembled wildly on her tongue. Her husband!—her husband!—he could not come to her, and she must go to him. But the two little girls—they appeared to her like guardie—great giant creatures dressed in fantastic uniform, stationed by her bed to coerce and religious law. She lifted her head, they seemed to smother her in the bed clothes, and gird her head down to the pillow with the hot clasp of their united hands. These two little creatures became to her an object of terrible dread. She longed for strength to rise from down from the towering altitude which her imagination gave, and blind-fold them, as they—in her fever fancy—had blindfolded her with their scorching hands.

She saw little Mary Fuller put on her hood and go forth with a thrill of manor delight. That wild, uncouth form had seemed far more terrible than the other, and yet now the petite figure of her child seemed to rise and swell over her like a fiend.

"Ice—ice!" She knew, in her delirium, that this cry sometimes sent her dreaded jailors from the room. If they were away, she could find her clothes—she could steal softly down stairs, and away after him.

"Ice—ice!" she cried. "I will drink nothing unless the ice rattles in the glass—cold, cold. It must be cold as death, I say."

Isabella rose up in terror, and taking the last expence, went forth for the ice. Then the mother laughed between her hatchets. Alone, all alone, she started up—her large eyes dilated—her hair, dress, and thrust her motes-ringed feet in a pair of slippers that stood near the bed.

Several dresses hung in the room; with her eager and burning hands she took them down, cast all but one on the floor, and with a fierce, laughing low and dismally all the while. A bandbox stood at the foot of the bed; she crept to it, took out a bonnet, and drew it with her trembling hands over the disordered masses of her hair, which she tried vainly to adjust to the place. Strong with fever, wild with apprehension that her guard might return, the poor woman arose to her feet, and after steadying herself by the door-frame a while, staggered from the room down the stairs and into the broad city.

Filled with the one idea of finding her husband, she passed on, turning a corner—another, and pausing now and then by an iron railing, to which she clung, with a desperate effort to keep herself upright.

Many persons saw her as she passed on, reeling in her walk, and with her sweet face flushed crimson—but alas! these sights are not uncommon in our city, from causes far more heart-rending than illness, and with a passing thought or wonder that a person of her appearance should be left out in the at mid-day, those who noticed her went by, some smiling in scorn, others filled with such pity as the humble good feel for erring humanity. But the poor invalid tottered forward, unconscious of their pity or their scorn. She had but one object—one fixed thought among all the wild ideas that floated through her brain—her husband. She was in search of him, and in her fever-strength, she walked on and on, muttering his name over and over to herself, as a lost child mutters the name of its parents.

At last her strength gave way, she was upon a broad sidewalk to which the granite steps swept down from many a lordly mansion. Her head reeled, the sunshine fell upon her eyes like spears of fire, she clung to an iron balustrade, swung half round with a feeble effort to sustain herself and sunk upon the pavement, moaning as she fell. Many persons passed by the poor invalid as she lay thus prone upon the stones. At last one more curious or more humane than the rest, bent down and spoke to her. She opened her eyes, looked at him with a dull, vacant gaze, and he might turn in hasty tones to go away and tell Chester that she was there waiting. The man saw that she was helpless, and, let the cause be what it might, incapable of moving. He called to a woman who was passing by with a basket on her arm, and gave her a shilling to sit down and hold the invalid's head in her lap, while he went for help.

"She may be only ill," said the benevolent Samaritan to the officer of police, whom he met on a corner. "There is no look about her of habitual intemperance—at any rate she cannot be barfened."

The officer followed this kind man, and they found Mrs. Chester moaning bitterly, and much exhausted by the exertion she had made.

"It is a singular case," said the policeman, "her language is good, her appearance might be adylike. But see." The man pointed with a meaning smile at the symmetrical feet in their loose slippers. The blue veins were swelling under the white surface, and there was a convulsive quiver of the muscles that seemed to spread over her whole frame.

"I can hardly believe this intoxication," said the stranger, gazing compassionately on the prostrate woman. "She must be ill—take it down suddenly in the street."

"But how came she barefooted—and her hair, it has not been done up since yesterday! I'm afraid we can't make out a clear case, sir."

"But where will you take her?"

"Home, if she can tell us where it is—to the Tombs, if she is so far gone as not to know," replied the man.

"The Tombs!"

"Oh, that is the City Prison, sir."

"I know, but the City Prison is no place for a person like this."

"Well, if you can point out anything better."

"I am a stranger in the city," was the mild reply—"if I had a home here, this poor creature should never go into a prison."

"Oh, I thought you must be a stranger," was the half-compassionating reply. "It takes some time before one gets used to these sights, but they are common enough, I can tell you, sir. Now let us see if she can be made to comprehend what we say."

With that cast of half-contemptuous interest with which the insane are some times cajoled, the policeman began to question the invalid, but she only asked him very earnestly if her husband had come, and turning her face from the hot sunshine that was pouring upon her, began to complain piteously that they had laid her down there to be consumed by a storm of fire flakes that was dropping upon her neck and forehead.

"You see the poor creature can tell us nothing; she is quite beside herself," said the policeman. "I must take her to the prison—it is the best I can do—to-morrow her friends may claim her, perhaps. At the worst she will only be committed for a day or two."

"Wait here," said the stranger, hurriedly, "wait till I get a carriage; she must not be taken through the streets in this state," and the kind man went off in haste. The officer looked after him smiling.

"You might know that he was from the country, poor fellow," he muttered, turning his back upon the sun, and good naturedly sheltering Mrs. Chester from its rays. "After all, I hope he is right; there is something about her that one does not often meet with! upon my word I hope she is only sick."

The stranger came back with a carriage—a showy and rather expensive affair—the cushions covered with fresh linen, and the driver quite an aristocrat in his way.

"So that is the fun, is it?" he said, eyeing poor Mrs. Chester with a look of superb disdain, "I don't, as a usual thing, take people up from the sidewalks in this carriage, my good friend."

"But I will pay you—I have paid you in advance," urged the stranger.

"Not for a job like this. Gentlemen who have an interest in keeping these little affairs quiet, should be ready to pay well—couldn't think of starting without another dollar at the least!"

"There is the dollar—now help lift this lady in!"

"This lady—a pretty place this for a lady!" muttered the man, dismounting from his seat with a look of magnificent condescension, and approaching Mrs. Chester.

"Gently—lift her with great care!" said the stranger, placing his arm under Mrs. Chester's head. "There, my good woman, get in first, and be ready to receive her."

The poor woman who had given her lap to the invalid as a pillow, attempted to set up, but the driver, after eyeing her from head to foot, turned to the stranger—

"I couldn't think of taking in that sort of person; the sick woman seems clean enough, but as for the other, she'll have to walk if she goes at all! Carriages wasn't made for the like of her."

The mild face of the stranger flushed with something akin to indignant pride, but reluctantly at the poor—an honorable and humane man, whose kindly feelings the habitual sight of distress has had no power to blunt—one who is faithful while he is humane, just while he is generous. A man like this is necessary to the requirements of our story, and a man like this was, and is, the Commissioner of whom

By the side of the Commissioner sat an old woman, talking in a low voice and weeping bitterly. You could see by the expression of the forehead, and by the tout ensemble of a countenance which no habit of self-control could entirely subdue, that the tale which this poor old creature poured into his ear was one of bitter sorrow—his dark eyes were bent thoughtfully on the table, and a look of deep compassionation lay upon his features as she continued her low and broken narrative.

At length the Commissioner looked up. You could see by the sudden kindling of his face, that he had bethought himself of some means by which this old woman might be benefited. He addressed her in a low but cheerful tone. The poor old creature lifted her head, the tears still hung amid the wrinkles in her cheek; but over her withered lips there came a faint smile. The Commissioner reached out his hand, she changed her staff, leaned upon it with her left hand, and half timidly laid the other. You could see by the brightening of those aged eyes, and by the increased vigor of her footsteps as she left the room, how like a cordial those evidences of sympathy in her distress had warmed her aged heart.

The stranger whom we have introduced, saw all this, and his heart warmed alike to the old woman and to the man who had comforted her. He approached the table, and could hardly refrain from holding out his hand to the Commissioner—so sure his good feelings vibrate to the good acts that they witness.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Original Poetry.

I WOULD I WERE A CHILD AGAIN.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.
BY ELLA ELWOOD.

I would I were a child again,
A laughing, little child—
With gladsome heart and spirit free,
Not care-worn as I am!
I long to look upon the world
Not with my woman's sight
Oh, no! I ask for childhood's eye,
That sees but light and light!

I would I were a child again,
A guileless, little one,
With heart that need not bleed like mine,
For dotage left undone
Tears would be shed for my portion then,
Such burning tears as now—
For sorrow finds no resting place
On childhood's sunny brow

I would I were a child again,
The future all seems bright
For hope no longer sends its light
Upon the path I tread.
Oh, 'twas not so when life was new,
Life seemed once so fair,
But ah, there's nothing half so bright
As childhood's visions are

I would I were a child again,
An unsuspicious one—
Ready to view, as kindly meant,
Whatever may be done;
I had no years stored on space,
A word will leave a sting.
That I could laugh at long ago
In childhood's pleasant spring

I would I were a child again,
All free from pride of locks—
With not a care for beauty, save
My pretty sunbeam tresses
There is a hand who cherns for mere
Than fairest worldings do—
For children always win the heart,
And yet slate a-know-ten

I would I were a child again,
A merry little elf.
Forever bent on others' weal
With scarce a thought of self
Oh! 'tis a happy lot, I feel,
Might my whole being move—
For I would be a little child,
And children are all love.

I would I were a child again,
An humble little child—
Of temper sweet, of yielding will
As gentle, meek and mild.
I long to pass, as I did then,
And seek the way to Heaven
For children seldom vainly seek
Or plead to be forgiven

I would I were a child again—
But vanish with the rest
And every day new wrinkles kiss
My worn and faded brow
And yet, I will be young again
Nor shall sight hinder me.
For I would twin, oh Christ, become
A little child to Thee.

Philadelphia, July, 1848.

CHANGE OF AIR.—An occasional change of air may be said to be almost necessary to the perfect well-being of every man. The workman must leave his workshop, the student his library, and the lawyer his office, or sooner or later his health will pay the penalty; and this, no matter how great his temperance in eating and drinking—no matter how vigorously and regularly he uses his limbs—no matter how open, and dry, and free from sources of impurity may be the air of the place in which he is employed. In the slightest cases of impaired health, the sleeping in the suburbs of the town in which the life is chiefly spent, or even the spending a few hours of detached days in some accessible rural district, at a few miles distance from the dwelling, may suffice to restore the healthy balance of the bodily functions, and maintain the bodily machine in a fit state for its duties.

HEARD I WIN, TAKES YOU LOSE.—A new method of raising the wind has been started by a company of Wall Street speculators. They have invested $40,000, and agents have been engaged to take bets during the coming Presidential campaign. They bet on both sides, but will bet with no one who is not sanguine enough to put two or more dollars to their one, by which means speculators are certain to double their money, let the election result as it may.

A Leaf from History

FRANKLIN AND MADAME HELVETIUS.

In the year 1780, Benjamin Franklin was in Paris, he lived at Passey, not far from Auteuil, and at Auteuil lived the widow of Helvetius, who was such an excellent, amiable and delightful woman that her friends, and among these might be reckoned the profoundest thinkers of the time, were accustomed to speak of her in no other manner than as "our good lady of Auteuil." She was no longer young, although in the highest degree fascinating and amiable, and besides this, the gentleness, intellectuality and decision of character which had been peculiar to her through the whole of her much tried, but always blameless life, made a union with her, a very desirable thing to the American philosopher, although at first it might appear somewhat startling.

The door lady herself had not the most remote idea of such a scheme; she received Franklin as a friend, who entertained no other feelings than what he expressed, and whose acquaintance she would have esteemed here-if happy to cultivate, at the end of her days. Philadelphia, in the meantime, desired the return of her celebrated citizen, and Franklin himself longed for his native land. He could never free himself from the fear of being kept in France by ill health, and probably dying there, while at the earnest wish of his soul was that it might be permitted to him to end his days in the midst of his fellow citizens, surrounded by his grand-children.

A deal of intercourse was always taking place between Passy and Auteuil; Madame Helvetius dined once a week in company with the Abbe de Larochu and the physician Cabanis, who resided with her, together with Morellet, a dear friend, but not a frequent guest, at the house of Franklin, and Franklin on the other hand, very often dined at Madame Helvetius, by which means he spent whole evenings with her, without ever paying her a morning visit. This intercourse with Franklin was of the most charming kind, and Morellet, who has so excellently told us of the great philosopher's remarkable good humor, simplicity of manners, sense of propriety and duty which exhibited itself in the merest trifles; affability, purity of soul, cheerfulness, and various other gifts, cannot say enough in its praise. Such was, at that time, the society frequented by the man who had raised his native land to freedom, and to whom the world is indebted for some of its most important discoveries.

One morning Franklin left his room much earlier than was his custom, and calling to Richard, his American servant, ordered him to attend him to Auteuil.

This Richard, or Dick, as his master called him, had fought in the war of Independence under Washington, and had thereby endeared himself, and when he was compelled to lay down his arms and leave his general, he attached himself to Benjamin Franklin, from whom he never afterwards would separate himself. Richard was an servant of the ordinary kind, he was faithful, devoted, and as good an American as Christian, desired industriously in the Bible, or made the necessary preparations for Franklin's experiments in natural philosophy.

Full of enthusiasm as youth is accustomed to be, or rather as a man who is sincerely convinced of the rectitude of his intentions, he allows no opportunity to escape of pointing to the very skies, either Franklin or his native country. In his leisure hours he occupied himself in making known to the other domestics the operations of electric city, or in explaining to the peasants of Auteuil the advantages of Franklin's newly discovered lightning conductor.

Now but a person like Franklin, who was in the highest degree sagacious in matters of a delicate nature, would have failed to observe what delight the idea of a visit to Madame Helvetius occasioned to Dick. He was always ready immediately when they had to go from Passy to Auteuil, and was often extremely fertile in discovering reasons why they should go.

As soon therefore as Franklin gave his orders on this particular morning, Dick was ready as if by magic; the stick, hat and gloves of the philosopher were instantly at hand, and without one moment's delay, they set out.

The June sun almost scorched up the fields, and the two therefore took a narrow footpath shaded by trees. Franklin walked on with a slow step and nothing in his appearance betrayed any desire to reach the end of his journey, more rapidly than usual, whilst his servant behind was quite in an agitation of impatience. Madame Helvetius was sitting in the room where she usually received visitors when they arrived; the window of this room looked out into a shady garden, where grew a linden tree, the thick leafy branches of which extended to the very window-sill.

"I hope, my dear Mr. Franklin," said she, as he entered, "that some unpleasant news which you wish to communicate to me, has not caused you to take this walk at so early an hour."

"By no means," replied Franklin, "I am merely come to tell you what happened to me last night."

"Then you have a story to tell me, dear friend," remarked she.

I must go and assist my father's sugar-cane, and go and make the cheese, and cream the milk for Madame Helvetius."

Annette rose up from the stone bench, arranged her dress a little, and then, evidently discomfited, went with stamping, mute lips into the kitchen-garden, where her father had been walking about all the morning with the weeping-cow.

"My dear friend," said Madame Helvetius to Franklin, "you are a better citizen than Richard, at least you are much more useful and necessary to your country than he is; could you decide wholly in give up your America? Would you be willing to end your days in France, near the dark-pond of Auteuil, far from you great rivers, your immense lakes, your sun, which rises over the undisturbed forests? I, for my part, think as Annette does, I prefer to that new world which you are making free, the little insignificant dark-pond of Auteuil. The story which you told me," added she, "is a charming one, but what do you say to that which we have just now heard?"

Franklin made no reply; he kissed the hand of the lady whom he loved, and then went immediately to Cabanis, to consult him on the best means of regulating his health during his long voyage.

A few days afterwards both Richard and himself set sail from Havre to America, where, as it well known, shortly after his arrival in Philadelphia, he was chosen Minister of State.

Annette neither left France nor the dark-pond of Auteuil. The next year she married one of her neighbors, who took up arms in the year 1789. During the power of Napoleon, Annette greatly distinguished herself, and in 1812 her husband fell "on the bed of honor," highly renowned for his military achievements.

As regarded Madame Helvetius, she also remained steadfast and true in her attachment to Auteuil. She always attracted to her the most distinguished men of the age, and Tuget, Garat, Destut Tracy, and Bernardin St. Pierre, succeeded to Benjamin Franklin. One day when Bonaparte, at that time First Consul, was walking with her in the garden, she said to him, "General, you can have no idea how happy one can be on a little plot of ground not above three acres in extent!"

That was very true, as coming from the lips of a woman who had refused to marry Franklin, and who, out of love to her native land, chose to end her days in the quiet retirement in which she had passed thirty happy years.

Our Correspondents

THE WESTERN RESERVE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

When we look back on the past, and reflect on what has been effected by human industry in reclaiming the forest, and spreading civilization over the West, even during the life of living men, we cannot help but feel proud of our country and its form of government, under whose auspices this has been effected; and nothing in my opinion is more interesting than a review of the first settlement of a country. A few facts can enable a reflecting mind to appreciate the services done to their country and to posterity at large, by those who fearlessly remove themselves from civilization, and as it were commence a new Empire where nothing but desolation reigned. With these brief observations, I proceed to write a few lines on the subject which heads this article.

The Western Reserve, as most of your readers are no doubt aware, is that part of Ohio, the proprietorship of which was granted to the State of Connecticut by the United States, to compromise the claims made by that State, in conformity with her original Charter—and in what formed her public domain, the proceeds of the sale of which formed the school fund of the State, which has operated so much to the benefit of not only her own citizens, but has exerted a powerful influence in diffusing knowledge throughout the whole of the South and West. This is the country where the sturdy sons of New England have made the forest become a beautiful region, and have achieved more in a quarter of a century, than has been achieved by men in milder regions in three times that period of time. Scarcely any part of the Union was settled under greater disadvantages than was this portion. The first settlers came from Connecticut and Massachusetts, by land, at a time when Western New York and Western Pennsylvania, were both very sparsely settled—and for miles the trees of the forest were their only guide to their destined home. At the time I speak of, Lake Erie was but partially navigable, and there was very little sale for the produce of the soil (all the Erie Canal by connecting Lake Erie with the Hudson, gave an impetus to Western agriculture and commerce. Before this time wheat would not sell for twenty-five cents per bushel, and stave goods were high in an inverse proportion, as goods had to come by land from Philadelphia, at an expense of twelve dollars and fifty cents per hundred pounds. Under such circumstances it is a wonder the country was not abandoned; but the mildness of the climate compared with the climate of the Eastern States, and the facility with which a man could settle his family on land, the friendly intercourse of neighbors bearing up each other's spirits, and the hope of a better day approaching, were sufficient compensation for all the toil and privations to be borne in the course of the settlement of the country. Going from twenty to forty miles to mill; cutting log-heaps to burn day night for the cattle and cows to get round, to be protected by the fire from the wolves and bears; a dense forest of beech and maples to subject to civilization, then to make through forests and mory swamps, roads to bridge; all these things had but little influence on those people, many of whom felt comparative ease and affluence in the Eastern States, and encountered privations which can be better appreciated than described, especially by one who never experienced them. The first settlement on the Western Reserve was made at Cleveland, in 1797, and was a permanent one; but it was not until after the war with Britain that this country began to be settled rapidly, and did it begin to flourish much till within the last twenty years.

And now to take a glance at the present. The stranger is travelling through this portion of Ohio, cannot help but admire the level surface of the country, covered with its green carpet, the roads lined with rows of fruit and ornamental trees, the fence rows running east and west, north and south, crossing each other at right angels, at every mile and a quarter's distance as you travel. At the centre of every township you see two or three places of worship, and at convenient distances from each other, school-houses are scattered over the surface of the country, in each of which schools are kept at least six months in every year. Thus it is evident that the habits of their ancestors predominate in a pre-eminent degree over the minds of these people, as respect to devotedness to the service of their Maker, and in bestowing the blessings of education on the rising generation. The man of a reflecting mind, in travelling through a country like this, might well consider himself in a terrestrial Paradise! Why what? By what? No—but by the indomitable perseverance of its inhabitants. The soil of this country is chiefly a heavy clay, producing good crops of grass, but on account of its tenacity to produce grass and its heavy cohesive nature, it never could be cultivated to great advantage, the exception of a crop of wheat which may be raised to advantage as a first crop on newly cleared land. Hence dairy business and the raising of stock constitute the chief business of the farmers. Some sections of the country have exceptions to this observation; but grass farming is generally considered more profitable than the raising of grain. Within the boundary of the Western Reserve are the ports of Conneut, Ashtabula, Fairport, Cleveland, Ohio City, Huron, and Sandusky City, all of which are ports of entry, and are accessible to the steamboats and other vessels which navigate Lake Erie. Cleveland is an incorporated city, and stands at the mouth of the Cuyahoga River, at the terminus of the Ohio Canal, which canal connects the Reserve to the north line of State county; and lake Akron, another canal is cut which connects the former canal with the Ohio River, at Beaver. The Cuyahoga River rises about twenty miles from Lake Erie, and running a considerable distance south-west, suddenly turns to the east, and falls in an immense water power at Cuyahoga Falls; and again at Akron, where the canal has eastern locks, is a power which is employed in drive several flour-mills, &c. It might be mentioned that in this road is situated the Western Reserve College at Hudson, and the Oberlin Institute in Huron county. These institutions are well calculated to exert a strong influence on the moral and religious character of the West, and in associating with the people of this section, may be seen the effects produced by education and religious institutions; drunkenness and swearing being practiced to an extremely limited extent, and scarcely a person can be found to the whole country, either old or young, but what can read and write and do the common business of life.

What I have written above is the result of observations during a seven years residence in this part of Ohio. I left in 1840. In conclusion I will state, that the Western Reserve is bounded on the North by Lake Erie, East by the line of Pennsylvania as far as the 41st degree of latitude, thence by a line due West one hundred and twenty miles; thence North by the east line of Sandusky and Seneca counties to Lake Erie. It was originally divided into eight counties, viz. Ashtabula, Geauga, Cuyahoga, Huron, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Trumbull, which are divided into one hundred and ninety-five townships, five miles square each, excepting those bordering on the Lake, where the square farm could not be preserved on a matter of course.

J. G.

Hardin county, Ky.

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United States SATURDAY POST.

HENRY PETERSON, EDITOR.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1848.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We daily receive pieces of poetry, some of which are truly execrable, but a majority of which are neither remarkably bad nor remarkably good. It would be a pleasure to us to oblige the writers by putting all pieces at all plausible into print, but when we consider that we have very little difficulty in procuring selected poetry that is truly excellent, it appears to us like injustice to our thousands of readers, to occupy the smallest space with anything that we do not consider of the first quality of its kind. This must be our excuse to those, the reception of whose articles are noted, but which articles, upon examination, are passed over as not being sufficiently good for our columns.

RECEIVED. "The Watcher," "The Laborers Abroad and at Home," "Oh," "The Mosquito," "On the Death of Miss E. A."

THE MOSQUITO. This parody is well written, but we do not think the poem parodied is likely to do much harm, and why, therefore, *should* we take the risk of getting any man's ill will by publishing "Isabel's" article? Why did not "Isabel" sign his name to his article—does he wish us to take a responsibility that he is unwilling to assume?

TO POSTMASTERS.

We trust our old friends, the Postmasters, will assert themselves and get up large clubs for the mammoth Post; or if they do not feel inclined to take advantage of our liberal offers themselves, that they will show our Prospectus to some other influential and responsable person who will be willing to do so. We think there need be no great difficulty in getting subscribers to the enlarged paper, as those who will take the trouble to compare it with the other weekly papers, cannot fail to perceive that it outshines all competition. Let it be remembered, also, that *the postage is just the same as a first class paper, as on the smallest and poorest of the small reprints.*

NOTICE.

Subscribers wishing their paper changed, will please give the name of the Post Office to be changed *from*, as well as the Post Office they wish it hereafter sent to.

All persons addressing letters to us should be careful to give the name of the State as well as of the town in which they live.

Post Masters or others sending for a club, would confer a favor by having them sent to one address when they can do so conveniently.

THE FOREIGN NEWS.

In addition to the news by the Hibernia that we give in another column, we may allude briefly to some other points of interest.

Decidedly the most important news, is a rumor, which we trust is not true, to the effect that Russia has declared war against the whole German Confederation. A letter from Cologne, under date of July 3rd, says that the news was brought to that place by an extraordinary express from Berlin, and also gives the following as the Russian ground of justification for resorting to hostilities:

The fact of numerous Russians having been mercilessly killed in the bombardment of Prague, and at Berlin, the indifference of the Government to Russian remonstrances, and the declaration of the National Assembly at Frankfort, insisting upon carry out the war against the Danes, who cried by the Czar as open acts of war against Russia.

The vast Russian army to which we alluded in a recent number, as hanging like a thunder-cloud over the northern frontier of Germany, it now appeared is not imaginary. If this be so, its first movements must almost necessarily be triumphant, for Germany has been so occupied with her internal dissensions, that she has no army with which to oppose the invader. Besides it is possible that the Schematic nations may rally to the banner of the Czar, seduced by the idea of a great Schavonic Empire. This, however, is as yet a rumor, which the next advices probably will either confirm or exploded altogether.

In France all is quiet. But we are afraid that the middle classes are becoming too much disposed to slight the claims of the workmen. There is too much talk about the folly of the system wisely, because unavoidably, put into operation by the provisional Government of the Republic, the question of which led to the late insurrection—too much of a disposition, apparently, to scarcefully put aside even the just claims of the vanquished party. We hope this may not be the case, but the killing of vast bodies of troops, including a large portion of the army of the Alps, to English, at a expense of twelve dollars and fifty cents per hundred pounds. Under such circumstances it is a wonder the country was not abandoned; but the mildness of the climate compared with the climate of the Eastern States, and the facility with which a man could settle his family on land, the friendly intercourse of neighbors bearing up each other's spirits, and the hope of a better day approaching, were sufficient compensation for all the toil and privations to be borne in the course of the settlement of the country. Going from twenty to forty miles to mill; cutting log-heaps to burn day night for the cattle and cows to get round, to be protected by the fire from the wolves and bears; a dense forest of beech and maples to subject to civilization, then to make through forests and mory swamps, roads to bridge; all these things had but little influence on those people, many of whom felt comparative ease and affluence in the Eastern States, and encountered privations which can be better appreciated than described, especially by one who never experienced them. The first settlement on the Western Reserve was made at Cleveland, in 1797, and was a permanent one; but it was not until after the war with Britain that this country began to be settled rapidly, and did it begin to flourish much till within the last twenty years.

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ASTHMA.—I have often had occasion to observe that a much blustering man does more for the world than a frigid wise man. A man who gets into a habit of inquiring about preparation and anticipation and occasions, spends his life without doing any thing to the purpose. The state of the world is such, and so much depends on action, that every thing seems to say loudly to every man,—*go do something!*"—*do it!*"—*do it!*—*Goethe.*

SINGULAR CASE.

Quite a furore dispute arose lately in Beaver, Penn., as to whether a certain David Mitchell, is David Mitchell, "son of the old man," or somebody else. The true David Mitchell was one of the Duquesne Guards, and is believed to have died and been buried at Pueblo. Now, it is evident that if the real David Mitchell died and was buried, the man now pretending to be David Mitchell must be an imposter. But the father, General Mitchell, ex-canal commissioner, deceived (as he said) by a slight resemblance to his son, received him into the family, and in the expressive language of a Pittsburg paper, "hugs the delusion." A daughter, however, denies that he is the genuine David, and left her father's house in consequence of his admission into it. Public opinion, also, is said to be strongly against him.—The last account stated that he had been imprisoned in Beaver jail as an imposter, to await the decision of the court in his case. If David is an imposter he is a bold one, and entirely too gifted and valuable an individual to be trusted to take care of himself. David should be taught that, however convenient it may be to young men, in certain cases of lowness of funds, to have several fathers, it is clear against law (to say nothing of nature) for any individual, however needy, to have more than one.

HEAVY FORGERY.

Wall street, New York, was thrown into a state of great excitement one day last week, by the announcement of one of the heaviest forgeries that had ever taken place in that city. "Have you heard of the great forgery?" flew from mouth to mouth. "Thirty-two thousand pounds, over one hundred and fifty thousand dollars!" "who would have believed it?" &c., &c.—such were the current phrases along Wall street.

But gradually it leaked out that the parties who had to bear the brunt of this most unexampled forgery, went about as smiling as ever, and said they would not lose more than a few hundred dollars money. Straightway the wits of all the merchants and brokers were at work to guess how that could be, but though many sage explanations were given, the mystery was not generally considered fathomed.

Finally, however, the explanation also leaked out, and a universal ha! ha! ascended from the stores and money-dens of Wall street. The forgery was of thirty-two thousand pounds of *iron*—forged into a sheet, by Sherman & Tupper, for a new boat, now building. This is the last joke, and we consider it well pass.

HYDROPHOBIA.

A correspondent of the N. Y. Island City, says that there is a sure *preventive* of this horrid disease. It is this:

❡ On the under side of the tongue of every dog, running from the tip, where it is largest, and of an oblong form, down towards the root about two and a half inches, where it connects with the rain, may be found a whitish, nerve-like gland. This contains a secretion which, Col. Scott and Capt. Becker, assert, is the virus or poison. In mad dogs this becomes inordinate, and in some way, either by bursting or otherwise, fills the mouth with the virus, which is thus communicated to the wound inflicted by the teeth. This gland may be easily removed with a lancet or penknife, by slitting the skin which confines it, about half an inch, and drawing it out with the fingers or a pair of tweezers. Dog fanciers had better adopt this plan, and practice it.

He says that Colonel Martin Scott, and Captain Becker, both of whom kept large packs of dogs for sporting purposes, always removed this gland from their dogs, and a case of hydrophobia never occurred among them. Certainly this alleged mode of preventing so terrible a disease is worth a trial.

CURIOUS.

Mr. Willis, in a late letter to the Home Journal, mentions a curious fact, which came under his own observation, relative to the butterfly. He saw a robin leave her nest repeatedly on the search for worms for her young; but let her leave the nest when the weather was certain to be assailed by a butterfly, which had taken up its station on a neighboring gravel walk, and resolutely attacked and beat off every warm-hunting bird that came near it.

Mr. Willis queries whether this butterfly, having a consciousness of its previous existence as a worm, felt a natural desire to protect its kindred, and an enmity against the destroyer of its worm children and grand-children. A very curious question, and one which we confess that we are not sufficiently either a butterfly or a philosopher to answer. We turn it over in despair to the members of the Academy of Natural Sciences; if they cannot answer it, no one can in Philadelphia.

THE GARDE MOBILE.

The "Garde Mobile" of Paris, is composed of some twenty five or thirty thousand boy-men—the majority of them being less than twenty years of age, and many not more than fourteen or fifteen. Their pay is thirty sous a day, while that of the regular army is only ten. They were taken from the very lowest classes of society, and the insurrection-limists confidently expected they would side with them. They refused to do so, was the cause of the horrible barbarity with which some of the insurgents treated all they could get into their power. There have fought like heroes—several battalions lost more than half their number, and every soldier of one company of one regiment and fifty-six was killed, save one, and he was badly wounded. It was one of this corps, a boy of seventeen with the appearance of one of fifteen, to whom General Cavaignac gave the cross of the legion of honor. The boys are of some account, after all.

NEWS TO US.

An old proverb advises persons to go abroad if they would hear what is going on at home, and the accuracy of this proverb is shown by a New York paper, proves either the truth of this adage, or else that people will talk about their neighbors most outrageously—we are half inclined to believe the latter. But hear the story:

Quite a mistake took place in a love affair at Philadelphia. A couple of young folks agreed to elope together, and by some mistake in the preliminary arrangements, the lover put his ladder up to the window next to that where his sweetheart slept, which proved to be that where her mamma, a handsome widow, resided. The lady turned this mistake to her own advantage, got into his arms, turned his endeavors, and by preserving a becoming silence until daylight, kept him in error, and then, by the potent spell of her blandishments, actually charmed him into matrimony with herself.

AN IRISH LANDLORD.

The Earl of Lucan, an Irish nobleman, evicted from his estate, in the period of eighteen months, one hundred and eighty seven families, comprising one hundred and eighty seven families, comprising one hundred and eighty seven families, comprising

United States SATURDAY POST.

Philadelphia:

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1848.

EUGENE SUE.

A Paris correspondent of the Enquirer, of this city, tells the following anecdote of Eugene Sue. The philanthropy of men like Sue is apt to be very intense so long as they are poor; but the instant they manage to scrape a little money together, they forget all their fine professions. In their writings they prate about the miseries of poverty, and ponder on sensuality, for the same reason—to make their books sell. But to the anecdote:

"Let me relate to you a trait of Eugene Sue, who, whilst writing so energetically of the wants and deprivation of the people, and of equality, exhibits in his own expenses, all the extravagance and refinements we read of in the decline of empires. Some time ago, before the revolution, he gave a 'dejeuner' to several of his friends, (*I have it from one of them.*) In ordering it of his 'maitre d'hotel,' he said to him, 'I must have two of the finest turbots, and both alike.' 'Two, sir! it will be a matter of one hundred and fifty or two hundred francs.' 'Cost what they may, I must have them'—and so it was done. The day of the breakfast arrived—a dozen guests—when a superb fish was brought in and laid upon the table before the admiring 'gourmets.' 'How beautiful! unique!—where was such a wonder found,' &c., &c. 'Here,' and flue to the 'maitre d'hotel,' who had his cue, 'put it upon the side-table, and help to it, for I don't know how to go about it.' 'Oh!' said a friend, who was in the secret, 'for heaven's sake, because of accidents'—as he spoke, the 'maitre d'hotel,' in the removal, dropped dish and fish, to the horror and despair of the guests. Some said, 'what a misfortune!' one remarked that some of the larger pieces might be picked up—all showed their regret and disappointment—when the host said to the servant, 'since you have been guilty of this awkwardness, you must make amends for it; go instantly and replace that turbot.' All were stupefied, and joyfully so, when they saw the smiling servant re-enter with a duplicate of the subject of their regret. In this refinement!"

The letter writer asks, "Is this refinement?" We answer that the pretended accident, the dropping of one dish in order to show that there was another equally fine in the kitchen, was the very lowest depth of vulgar and stupid prodigality.

Board of Health.—The number of deaths during the last week in this city was 182—adults 69, and children 113.

From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

SENATE.

On the 18th, the Vice President laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the imports of coal and iron, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Reverdy Johnson inquired whether the Secretary of the Treasury had replied to the call made upon him as to the number of officers in the Baltimore Custom House.

The Vice President replied in the negative.

Mr. Johnson then said that he would renew the call if the information required was not forthcoming in a day or two.

Mr. Davis, of Mississippi, from the Committee on Conference, in relation to the bill reducing the number of General Officers in the Army, reported a bill repealing the act upon this subject, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Dix, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made a report recommending that the Senate agree to the amendment made by the House to the bill granting half pay to the widows and orphans of soldiers who had been killed or died of wounds in Mexico. After some debate, the amendment was concurred in.

Mr. Badger submitted a resolution for consideration, asking the President to inform the Senate in relation to the circumstances attending the seizure of the ship Admittance by an American vessel of war on the coast of California. Adopted.

On motion of Mr. Benton, the Senate went into Executive session.

After the doors were re-opened, Mr. Clayton from the Select Committee reported a bill to establish territorial governments in Oregon, New Mexico and California, which was read twice, and made the order of the day for Friday next. The bill leaves out the slavery question altogether. Mr. Clayton said that the Committee had adopted the bill with great unanimity, only two of the members dissenting. Messrs. Clark and Underwood.

On the 19th, Mr. Dickinson presented the petition of Alexander H. Johnson, remonstrating against the stoppage of the mails on Sunday, which was ordered to be printed and referred to the Post-office Committee.

The joint resolution from the House authorizing the presentation of the cannon taken by Col. Donophan at the battle of Sacramento to the state of Missouri, was passed.

The resolution submitted to compensate Col Freemont for compiling the map of Oregon and California, was adopted.

Mr. Clayton rose to make a few remarks in explanation of the action of the Select Committee, and to correct misapprehension in regard to his remarks yesterday, while submitting the bill agreed upon. Some have supposed that what he said was intended as a report from the Committee. This was a mistake; it was intended that the bill should speak for itself. What he had said was an expression of his own views, and he did not desire the committee to be responsible for them.

This view of the case was concurred in by Mr. Calhoun.

On motion of Mr. Atherton, the Naval Appropriation bill was taken up. All the amendments striking out the appropriations for marine hospitals, were rejected.

On the 20th, on motion of Mr. Atherton the Naval Appropriation bill was taken up for consideration.

Mr. Niles offered an amendment, striking out the section authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to make monthly advances to the contractors of the mail steamers.

A debate ensued, in which Messrs. Niles, Atherton, Yulee, Allen, Douglass, Calhoun and others participated. The contracts for mail steamers and the whole merits of the system were discussed.

The amendment was finally adopted.

Mr. Lewis moved a reconsideration, which was ordered to be put upon the journal.

On the 21st, on motion of Mr. Dickinson, a resolution was adopted calling upon the Secretary of War for information in relation to the arms and equipments furnished to the volunteers.

Mr. Dix, from the Special Committee to which was referred the memorial of Miss Dix, reported a bill granting certain public lands for the support of the indigent insane. He gave notice that he would at an early day move to go into the consideration of the bill.

On motion of Mr. Atherton, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Naval Appropriation bill.

The Chair stated the question pending, to be Mr. Lewis' motion to reconsider the vote adopting Mr. Niles' amendment the day previous. Upon this motion an interesting debate sprang up in which Messrs Phelps, Niles, Foote, Benton, and Davis, of Massachusetts, participated. After which, the question was taken upon Mr. Lewis' motion to re-consider Mr. Niles' amendment, and resulted in the affirmative—yeas, 30, nays 20.

The question then recurred upon Mr. Niles' amendment, when it was negatived, by a vote of yeas 28, nays 26.

After a very long debate, principally in regard to explaining naval steamers in carrying the mails, an amendment, proposed by Mr. Dix, to advance $150,000 to the Bremen line, was negatived.

Mr. Hall proposed an amendment, abolishing flogging in the navy, which was negatived.

After further proceedings the Senate was left without a quorum. The Sergeant-at-arms was sent for the absentees, when two or three came in, and the bill as amended was passed, and at o'clock the Senate adjourned.

On the 22nd, Mr. Hale presented a petition from Philadelphia, praying for the amendment of the Territorial Bill, so as to permit the blacks to vote in Oregon.

On motion of Mr. Clayton, the bill establishing Territorial Governments in Oregon, New Mexico and California, was taken up. Mr. Clayton addressed the Senate in behalf of the bill, explaining its provisions and reserving to himself the right, as Chairman of the Select Committee, to close the debate if discussion should arise. He exhorted all those who thinked to see this question peacably settled to vote for this bill.

Mr. Niles spoke in opposition to the bill, and pointed out what he contended were its defects, viz: that it did not prohibit slavery in the new territory, when applying for admission into the Union. He reminded the Northern Senators of the political death which befel those of the North who voted for the Missouri Compromise, some of whom were burned in effigy.

Mr. Dickinson said that the burning in effigy had no terrors for him. That was only the resort of traitors and cowards. This Union was founded on compromises and he should go for them.

The debate was further continued by Messrs. Cornin, Phelps, Westcott, Niles, Baldwin, Hale and others.

Mr. Baldwin offered an amendment to the bill, striking out that part relating to New Mexico and California, and leaving Oregon to stand alone, which was negatived by a vote of 17 yeas to 35 nays.

Mr. Hamlin addressed the Senate and spoke at some length in opposition to the bill.

When he had concluded, Mr. Clarke obtained the floor, and moved that the Senate adjourn, which was agreed to by the following vote: yeas 29, nays 24.

On the 24th, the Vice President laid before the Senate a report from the Secretary of the Treasury in relation to the number of officers now employed in the Baltimore Custom House, with their salaries, and the number employed on the 4th of March, 1845, being in response to the resolution of inquiry offered some time since by Mr. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland.

Mr. Johnson submitted a resolution, asking the President to communicate to the Senate the proceedings of the two Courts of Inquiry into charges preferred against Col. Pillow. Adopted.

The Territorial Bill.—On motion of Mr. Clayton the Senate resumed the consideration of the Territorial Bill.

Mr. Hale offered an amendment, to strike out the word "free white," so as to allow all persons of whatever color the right of suffrage in the Territory of Oregon. Laid on the table.

Mr. Clarke then addressed the Senate, and spoke at considerable length in explanation of his course as one of the minority members of the Select Committee, from which the bill was reported, giving his reasons for the opposition he expressed in the Committee, and still feels. He then submitted an amendment, providing that involuntary servitude shall not exist in Oregon, under the Territorial Government, unless sanctioned by Congress.

Mr. Miller then addressed the Senate at considerable length in opposition to the bill.

Mr. Phelps followed in a brief support of the bill, and in defence of his course as a member of the Special Committee of the Senate.

Mr. Fitzgerald followed. He was disposed to go against the bill, but still was willing to vote for it if he could think that it would settle the question. He feared that the friends of the bill were destined to be disappointed in this particular.

Mr. Corwin opposed the passage of the bill in an able speech of three hours' duration. It is said to have made a profound impression.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On the 19th, Mr. Botts, from the Committee of Conference, reported a bill agreed upon with the Committee on the part of the Senate, and recommended to both Houses. It repeals the law of 1846, requiring the reduction of the officers of the army to the former standard. It also allows three month's extra pay. The question upon adopting the report of the Conference Committee was then taken by yeas and nays, when it was adopted by a vote of 119 to 16.

Mr. Paradee presented a paper from the Commissioner of Patents, pronouncing the charges preferred against him and referred to by the Committee on the Patent office as false, and asking a hearing before the Committee. Referred to the Committee on Patents, with authority to send for persons and papers.

On the 19th, the bill extending pensions to the widows of soldiers of the Revolution, married previous to 1800, was then taken up. Messrs. Rose and Pollock were warm in advocating it, and Messrs. Bowline and Venable opposed its passage. The vote was taken by yeas and nays, and decided in the affirmative, by a vote of 126 to 13.

The joint resolution providing for carrying the mails to and from the Pacific in steamers, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, was taken up, Messrs. Butler and Keen spoke ably in support of the resolution, after which it was laid upon the table, and the House adjourned.

On the 20th, more than an hour was spent in decoding a question of order raised yesterday by Mr. Stewart, of Michigan. It was in relation to Mr. Stephens' charging his vote and the casting vote of the Speaker upon an item in the civil bill, appropriating $15,000 for the improvement of the Savannah River, which having been previously stricken out, was restored.

Reaction in the Civil Bill.—The Bill, with this item restored, was then put upon its final passage, and the vote being taken by yeas and nays, it was negatived, yeas 78, nays 109. The Whigs, finding that the Democrats were voting in the negative, voted nay likewise.

Mr. Turner moved a reconsideration.

Mr. Cobb hoped that the House would reconsider the bill, and recommit it to the Committee on Ways and Means, so that it could be framed to suit the views of the majority.

Mr. Pettit moved to lay the question upon the table and the vote being taken by yeas and nays it was negatived, yeas 70, nays 101, and the House refused to lay the motion to reconsider upon the table.

Mr. Vinton said that the most of the items in the bill had been reconsidered by the executive departments, and he knew not why the gentlemen on the other side voted against the bill.

Mr. Gentry spoke for the Whig side of the House, and said that having seen the other side voting nay, they chose to vote with them.

Mr. Cobb said that there were objectionable items in the bill which had caused his and other negative votes. He objected to the Savannah River improvement.

Mr. Vinton resumed and explained.

A debate that assumed a political character ensued, in which Messrs. Speer, McKay, Hudson, Bayley, Stephens and others participated.

Mr. Smith, of Indiana, obtained the floor, when an adjournment took place.

On the 21st, the Speaker announced the first business in order to be the consideration of the motion made to re-consider the vote by which the Civil Appropriation Bill had been negatived.

Mr. Smith, of Indiana, having the floor from yesterday, occupied the attention of the House with a warm review of the conduct of the dominant party, and in the course of his speech read the letter of General Cass to the Chicago Convention.

Mr. Stewart, of Michigan, followed and defended his party and Gen. Cass. He concluded with an attack upon the Whigs.

Mr. Goggin next made a hasty speech and quoted Mr. Bagley's former denunciations of Gen. Jack's corruption at Jalapa. He also quoted Henry A. Wise's testimony against Gen. Cass, before an Investigating Committee.

Mr. Thompson, of Mississippi, read a speech against Gen. Taylor and the Whig party and eulogize of Gen. Cass.

Mr. Barrow replied.

The question was then taken on the reconsideration, which being carried, the House adjourned.

On the 22d, the House took up the Civil Appropriation bill, when Mr. Cobb moved a reconsideration of the vote, by which the bill had been ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Clingman moved to lay the motion upon the table, and the vote being taken by yeas and nays, was decided in the affirmative—yeas 99, nays 88. So the House refused to consider the engrossment of the bill.

The bill was then brought back upon its final passage again, when it was read a third time and passed—yeas 108, nays 76.

Mr. Vinton then moved a reconsideration, and by way of a clincher, Mr. Schenck spoke for an hour in exposition of the policy of the administration party, upon the subject of internal improvements, and throwing all the responsibility. The debate was continued by Messrs. Lahm, Green, and others.

Mr. King, of Georgia, moved to lay the motion upon the table, which was carried, and the question stands passed, with the appropriation for the improvement of the Savannah river.

On the 24th, Mr. Clingman submitted a resolution for the adjournment of Congress on the 7th of August, which, after some debate, was passed by a vote of 106 to 48.

A message was received from the President, replying to the resolution calling upon him for the instructions respecting the establishment of civil governments in California and New Mexico.

After being read, Mr. Cobb moved that 10,000 copies be printed.

The message says that the governments were established by his direct orders as President of the United States, he having acquired the power by the conquest of the territories.

Mr. Hilliard obtained the floor, and reviewed the message, condemning the President's whole conduct. He also opposed the Senate's Slavery Bill, and advocated the Missouri Compromise.

Mr. Birdsall followed, and read a speech on territorial rights, in the course of which he denounced Van Buren as base and dishonorable.

Mr. Vinton followed in a speech of much severity against the President's conduct.

Mr. Duncan, of Kentucky, followed on the same side, and opposed the President's proceedings.

The House ordered the message and documents to be printed, and made the order of the day for Thursday.

HONEY BEES.

Certain persons in this city, are making money by producing artificial swarms of bees, at one dollar for each swarm produced. They attempt to veil the subject in mystery.

Was the process a discovery of any of those persons, we would say go ahead, gentlemen—do what you can and make what you can by your discovery and genius. But it is not so. It is a species of "Book Farming," which they have learned from books, and therefore it is not—should not—and shall not be used as a recent valuable discovery, if we can make the matter understood.

Artificial Swarming, contains merely in taking a piece of comb containing young bees about *three days old*—fixing the comb in a clean hive, and then collecting by means of a quill or brush and saucer, at least one half of the bees belonging to the hive from which the comb was taken, and placing them in the hive containing the newly taken out comb. This is all that is necessary to produce a good active swarm of bees, which will do as well at least as those left behind; some pretend that a particular kind of comb should and must be taken for the purpose, for instance, comb containing royal cells. It is a mere pretence; and comb containing bees of the age above mentioned will do.

Another Process.—Take the queen bee, and secure her—then drive more than half the bees in the hive to another hive—remove it some distance and then put the queen in, or if less than half are taken, remove the old hive to some other place, and let the new one occupy the place of the old one, so that the absent workers, as they return from their labors, may recognize their old quarters, and remain with her.—*Morgan Chronicle.*

LATEST NEWS!

FROM MEXICO.

The New Orleans Delta of the 14th, has seen a letter expressed to a gentleman in that city, stating that the armies of Paredes and Bustamonte had approached within sight of one another, at a small town about midway between Guanajuato and the city of Mexico, and that a large portion of the forces of the latter had deserted to the former. The Delta thinks that Paredes has, no doubt, ere this, marched quietly into the city of Mexico, and dispossessed the government which concluded the peace with the United States. Perhaps so. The Supreme Court of Mexico, at the last regular advices, was agitating the question of protesting against the treaty on the ground that it was unconstitutional.

The steamship Alabama from Vera Cruz arrived at New Orleans on the 20th. She left on the 15th, and brings over one hundred and three companies of the 1st Artillery. Gen. Worth is also a passenger.

The public property had all been withdrawn from Vera Cruz, and the only force remaining was the garrison. The final evacuation was expected to take place about the 1st prox.

Gen. Wool and staff were at the Brazos on the 15th, awaiting transportation. There was much sickness among the volunteers.

RHINOCEROS ESCAPED.

A slip from the office of the Johnstown Republican, states, that on Saturday night last, while Raymond & Waring's menagerie was at Galway, the elephant Columbus broke off some of the grates to the cage of the rhinoceros, setting him loose.—A fight took place between them. The rhinoceros was tethed to the earth, but soon rose and gave the elephant several upward thrusts with his prodigious horn, wounding him so that he is not expected to live. The rhinoceros escaped to the woods, where he was pursued by about fifty persons, but up to Sunday evening had not been captured. A large reward is offered for him if recaptured alive.

Varieties.

SCRAPS

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

NO. IX.

We are told that of men there is none good, no, not one. The reverse of the proposition is equally true—there is none bad, no, not one; if by bad we mean completely corrupted. Men are a mixture of good and evil. The one nearest to perfection is still defective in some respects, and the one nearest to complete corruption has some redeeming qualities. How little have the best to boast of, how much the worst to be encouraged.

We ought to think and speak truly, without endeavoring to gain others to our way of thinking, or to make them adopt our tastes and our sentiments. An attempt so to gain men is too great an enterprise.

He who would not permit another to think for himself, is a despot in heart, and would tread on him.

Men and women seldom agree on the merits of a woman; their interests are so very different. Women do not please each other by the same attractions that they please men; a thousand indescribable things which kindle in the latter the strongest passions, form among them aversion and antipathy.

Do not envy those who have great riches, they frequently make them very dearly; they are purchased with health, repose, honor and conscience, and are a bad bargain.

The best way of making a fortune is to induce men by your good actions to promote your interest.

He is rich who receives more than he uses; he is poor who consumes more than he gets.

There are but two ways of rising in the world, either by our own industry and probity, or by the imbecility and folly of others.

A long sickness seems placed between life and death, when her own husband, on first hearing of the accident feared that the public tongue would whisper suspicion upon his name. We may experience a sensation of regret on finding our sympathy with Dudley's long continued struggle between his love and ambition, take away before this indubitable revelation of his selfishness.—*Western Continent.*

A LOVE SCENE.

Captain Tobin, a clever correspondent of the New Orleans Delta, thus sketches a scene that occurred in Mexico, just after the U. S. troops had received orders to march:

There are many bright eyes dimmed with tears. "All my mother rose to my eyes" at a scene of distress in one family. A beautiful girl formed an attachment for a young Virginia Lieutenant, and loved him wildly and madly, as none but Spanish girls do.

He had just paid his *adieu* to the family when I called to pay mine. I found the father very sad; the young lady weeping bitterly with a gentle elder sister holding one hand, and a fair younger one the other; her mother bent over her, endeavoring to console her, but the attempt was useless, the girl's very looks seemed to express plainly the languid words of Moore's beautiful translation of Anacreon's Sappho:

"Oh! my sweet mother, let me rest,
I cannot weave as once I wove
Be wildered is my heart and brain
With thinking on the youth I love."

THE SMALL TAIL MOVEMENT.

The following story, told by the Richmond Republican, we feel constrained to publish, though we are aware that in doing it we render ourselves liable to the charge of violating our fixed rule, not to meddle with partisan politics. If we have a Democratic reader, however, who is disposed to take umbrage, we offer in extenuation the quality of the story, and if not satisfied with that, to balance the account we promise to publish against the Whigs as good a one whenever found. The writer thus tells the story:

During the canvass of 1840, being then on my very first legs as a politician, I was invited by friends to a council at the county seat of G———, in Virginia, upon the highly respectable military services of General Harrison. From the manner in which the audience attended to what I was saying, I flattered myself that my efforts were highly acceptable to them. I spoke of the old hero's geniality and generalship at the battle of Tippecanoe—of the firmness he displayed during the night attack of the savages upon his encampment—the promptness exhibited in all his arrangements during that trying occasion, and the victory that crowned his efforts. I also dilated and enlarged upon the surge that followed, and enlarged his constancy, bravery and self-denial on that occasion, which brought the campaign of 1812 to a victorious close, turned the tide of savage warfare back from the Ohio border, rescued thousands of women and children from the merciless tomahawk, and restored the blessings of security to the North Bend. I was proceeding to treat in the same strain, of the battle of the Thames, when an opponent, of considerable influence in the neighborhood, stepped forward, and the following dialogue ensued:

"What sort of a movement," said he, "was it that General Harrison made at the battle of the Thames?"

"I don't remember any movement specially; his movements were, doubtless, in accordance with the rules of military art; and he certainly discharged his duty with ability and energy."

"Don't you know," said the questioner, with ill suppressed indignation, "that General Harrison made the *small tail movement* at the battle of the Thames?"

"Really, sir, I do not comprehend the *draft* of your remarks."

Upon this my opponent drew out of his breeches pocket an old edition of "Grimshaw's History of the late War," opened it at a place where a leaf had been carefully turned down, and asked me to read aloud a passage to the following effect:—"At the battle of the Thames, General Harrison performed a novel movement. He ordered Colonel Johnson's regiment of mounted men to charge the Indians, who were posted in the woods with trailed arms," &c.

"Stop!" says he, in great triumph, "what do you think of that?"

"Why, sir," said I, "it shows General Harrison's genius; he invented a manoeuvre perfectly adapted to the occasion, and the whole affair was highly honorable to his military sagacity."

"What is the meaning of the word *novel?*" he demanded, with a perfect roar of confidence and triumph.

"It means new," I replied.

"It means a *small tail*," said he, with a tremendous voice, and, drawing out of his pocket a small edition of Walker's Dictionary, asked me to look for the word. I did so, and found it to mean as follows:

"Novel *n.* New, *s.* A small tale."

I saw at once the source of the fellow's error, and despaired of convincing him of it. I tried to explain to him the difference between an *adjective* and a noun in the English language, but the brute stamped and swore that I was trying to convey him to the main land.

In pursuance of this determination, a stone being a string attached to it, was, after several unsuccessful attempts, thrown across the water. A rope was then fastened to the string, which was pulled over a high post, and drawn across by Firlardeau, and made fast to the rock; a large iron ring having been put upon the hawser, a smaller rope was tied to it, a few feet at one end being allowed to hang down for the purpose of securing the boat. This was also passed over by a string as before.

The arrangements being completed, the signal was given him to prepare for his precarious voyage. This he did with a great deal of coolness, and seated himself upon his body with admirable skill. During the time this occupied, the excitement became breathless. It rose to the highest possible pitch, when, apparently misunderstanding signals made to him, to a wind some half-an-hour before, he suddenly sprang, and passed himself upon a portion of the crib, which had formed a "jamb" upon the rock, and launched off boldly, with nought but the thin air between him and eternity. The moment was a thrilling one. A portion of his body dipped into the water, which, below—we turned to look upon the effect produced upon the multitude around. All seemed to hold their very breath, while, with pallid cheeks, and eyes intently fixed, they gazed upon the scene. A moment passed, when to one there the doubtless seemed an age, and the rocks resounded with one loud, deep shout, in which even the roaring of the torrent itself was lost. Drawn swiftly along the hawser by the ring, in less time than we have taken to narrate it, the shoot is reached in safety, and congratulations are poured upon the hero of this adventure, for his most miraculous escape from sinking the untimely fate of his unfortunate companion.—Long will his extraordinary passage be remembered from this island, which may therefore not inappropriately be designated "Firlardeau's Rock."—*Bytown Canada Gazette.*

Bytown is on the grand Ottawa River, far in the interior of Canada. The situation of Mr. Firlardeau was one of great peril; quite as much so as if he had been driven out on the small islands directly above the Falls of Niagara.—*Com. Adv.*

Utility of Wasps and Hornets.—Reaumur states that the French butchers are glad to have wasps about their stalls, for the purpose of driving the blow flies. In one town country, both wasps and hornets do great service in destroying vast numbers of tormenting flies and moths.

Cotton or Eggs.—Fowls, which is a portion of chalk is given with their food, lay eggs having shells remarkable for their whiteness. By substituting for chalk, a calcareous earth, rich in silex, the color of the egg shells will be of an orange-red.

The Memory.—If it be weak, do not overload it. Charge it only with the most useful and solid matters. A small vessel should not be crowded with lumber.

LUNATICS.

There are some very interesting cases of mania at the Asylum on Blackwell's Island, N. Y. One old woman, with a fine classic face, claims to be "the spirit which originally breathed upon chaos; to this she sometimes adds, that she is "the Bright and Morning Star." She walks the room with a Bible constantly clasped to her bosom, and at times utters the most pathetic and beautiful language.

A gentleman who once was noted for his talents and literary acquirements, imagines himself a king, and has magnificent schemes for governing the world.

One pretty girl, who went crazy from a disappointment in love, will converse on many subjects rationally. She was engaged to be married, but a difference of religion induced the relatives of her lover to break off the match, and she, poor girl, had her mind unsettled thereby.

One man has invented a process for changing sea weed into tobacco, thereby keeping in the country much money that now goes to Havana. Another has been by some trick, wronged out of the Presidency.

The most remarkable man in the Asylum is a Spaniard—a powerful man, six feet high, with large black eyes and a dark swarthy skin, who is the very personification of the demoniac mentioned in the Scriptures, "whom no man could bind." He wears no clothes, and as with impassioned gestures he speaks of the scenes which memory or fancy pictures forth, he displays a powerful mind unhinged—a fierce will unguided by reason. He has been a slaver and a pirate, and as he speaks of transactions at the Gallinas and a Brazil, exhibits a desperate and blood thirsty countenance.

Life in New York.

TWO JERSEY GIRLS WHO DIDN'T SEE THE ELEPHANT

One of the Jersey boats brought to the city of New York, on the 4th, two young, fresh, and hearty girls, who had long before agreed to celebrate the Fourth of July together, in seeing the wonders and amusements of that city. They had made a trifle of money in picking strawb ries at one penny a basket, were fast friends and not half so green as the fields they were accustomed to range in, but still they were veritable country girls, and had never read the latest work on etiquette. You may be sure they were in fine spirits, when, after swallowing a cup of tolerable coffee in Washington Market, they walked up Fulton Street to the American Museum. Their two shillings each, and "helped themselves" liberally to a sight of the numberless curiosities which that popular establishment contains.

When according to their own estimation, they had got their money's worth, they went out, intending to make their way to the Battery, to see the military pageant. But they had scarcely left the Museum steps before a good-looking, well-dressed young man, quite accidentally stumbled against them, and quite as naturally apologized for his unpremeditated offence.

"There's no harm done," said Susan; "is there Jane? We are country girls, and don't mind trifles. Besides, you city people always walk with your eyes up at the tops of the houses. For my part I don't see how you get along so well."

"Then you are from the country, young ladies?" said the strange young gentleman, with a bow and a smile.

"Yes, we are," answered Susan, "isn't we, Jane? We are from the Jersey shore, just back of Shrewsbury. Were you ever at Shrewsbury, sir—down at the beach, I mean? It's a famous place along that shore, and people who are born there have their eye-teeth ready cut, and their eye-brows buttered back when they are a day long borne. Catch them napping! Why they are all what you call land pirates once, and didn't think any more of toting a ship ashore, than a city sharper would think of cheating a country green-horn."

"I am not from the Jerseys," the young man replied, "but I am a stranger in town, like yourselves, and if you have no objection, I should be pleased to accompany you round for a few hours."

"I'm agreeable," said Susan, "if Jane is. We are going to the Battery to see the sogers."

Jane said that she was not the girl to break up pleasant company, and off the trio started—the two girls quietly exchanging glances as Susan whispered to Jane—

"He's one no 'em as we're used of in the papers, and now for some fun, Jenny, dear."

Very pleasantly, arm in-arm, the party worked their way through the crowd, and had got as far down as Trinity Church, when, with a sudden start, and a loud exclamation, Susan declared that she had lost the purse which contained the money of both herself and Jane. Jane looked serenely in the young man appeared to be not a little embarrassed.

"I don't care," said Susan, after regaining her composure, "it was not much—a few cents over two dollars, and I have a dollar bill in the toe of my sleeve, which I was to pay away for father—but I'll get that changed, and let father pay the next time he comes up." Saying which, she presented a fifty dollar note, and asked the young gentleman where she could get it changed.

"All the brokers are closed to-day," he said, "and I have not more than fifteen dollars in city money by me. If the balance in Southern money would answer——"

"Is it good?" asked Susan.

"Perfectly good," was the reply, "although you must get it exchanged at the brokers."

"Father'll do that—give me fifteen dollars in city money—that's more than I want to day—and the rest in Southern, as you call it."

The exchange was made, the young girl pocketing fifteen dollars in good money, and thirty-five in worthless bills, and the three resumed their walk to the Battery.

The sharper was very polite and attentive, and Susan and Jane so delighted at a though they had seen him from childhood. But we have not time to follow this interesting party in their sightseeing on the Fourth.

They went down to one of the eating houses, near Fulton Market, to dine, but before the dinner was ordered, the girls began to talk of moving for the boat, which left at four. Their companion insisted that they should stay and see the fire-works in the evening, and said that he had an aunt who kept a fashionable boarding-house, where they could stay all night, and return home in the morning. Jane protested that they must go back that night, but Susan, with a sly wink, said they could as well stay over, but they must go down to the boat, and send word by the Captain to her father, who would be waiting for them at the landing. Jane, with much seeming reluctance assented, and away the three started for the boat. There they were obliged to wait, because Susan could not find the Captain, and it would not do to send the message by anybody else. Three o'clock came; then half-past three, then a quarter to four—still Susan could not see the Captain. They were standing by the gangway when the last bell rang. It tolled, the ropes were being cast off, when Susan, with a weak at Jane, said, that on no account would she would go home, and the two girls stepped on board the boat, just as they were pulling in the plank.

"Much obliged for your politeness," said Susan, with a merry laugh, and speaking to the sparkling gallant who stood on the pier—"remember me to your aunt."

"And me, too," said Jane, laughing also: "and if you ever come down our way, tell us how you enjoyed the fire-works. I'm sure you won't forget us."

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When the boat was under weigh the girls broke out into a real Jersey laugh.

"You didn't lose your purse!" asked Jane.

"Here it is," said Susan, "to speak for chaff, and some of the fellows, I reckon, too, will think that *fifty dollar counterfeit bill*, marked counterfeit in big letters on the back of it, that father got when he was a grand juryman, and indicted the counterfeiters—to pass that off for fifteen dollars good money. I know it looks good; and have a handsome beau in the bargain."

"But suppose," said Jane, seriously, "that we should be mistaken and he not the sharper we suspect?"

"Not a sharper? Why didn't he want us to go to his aunt's.

"But the chap made a mistake—he's not just much acquaintance with Jersey girls, but he'll know 'em again when he sees 'em." And Susan put up her money in a way which expressed the satisfaction she felt at the result of her first day of jolly adventure in New York.—*New York Dispatch.*

Items of News.

Enough Items.—To no great an extent has olive been the emblem of peace, for, in ancient times, the Jewish Rabbis throughout the kingdom were requested to cause an examination to be made of the oil employed by their people for culinary purposes, lest they should be consuming the production of an idolatrous country.

A gentleman is said to have challenged the Great Western Railway Company to run a race at half a mile; between one of its engines and his horse, for a stake of one thousand guineas. The match is proposed to be decided on the Reading Race Course, which is parallel with the railway.

Nearly two hundred young women, under the charge of six matrons, sailed last week from Plymouth, in the Royal George, for Sydney, New South Wales. These girls were all selected in the Irish Union Workhouses, and are sent by the Australian Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Temperance.—The cause of Temperance appears to flourish in Canada. In the parish of St. Mathias with an adult population of 1,200, all but four persons have signed the pledge. The parish is said to have spent annually in strong drinks in the present time, $6,000. The Roman Catholic Bishop is the great leader of the temperance movement in progress in.

The Soldier's Waking Dream.—The Pittsburg Journal relates a touching incident connected with the return of the volunteers. As they were marching up the wharf, near disembarkation, a young gallant looking soldier happened to catch sight of a young woman at the same moment that she saw him. She was quite pretty, very neatly dressed, and had a very bright little baby in her arms. The young woman uttered a short joyful cry as she saw the soldier. Away went the musket, and darting from his place in the ranks, the brave fellow caught his wife and child in his arms.

Gambling.—The New Orleans Delta gives an account of a victim of a gambling house in that city, who, getting into a rage at his bad luck, knocked over the table, and discovered divers wires, by means of which, intelligence was conveyed to the player, in order to enable him to plunder his victim more effectually.

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Selected Poetry.

FROM THE NATIONAL ERA.

RESOLVES.

BY MISS PHOEBE CARRY.

I have said I would not meet him; I have I said the words in vain?
Sunset burns along the hill-tops, and I'm waiting here again.
But my promise is not broken, though I stood where noon was met;
When I hear his coming footsteps, I can fly him even yet.

We have stood here at eleven evening dropped silently o'er the pikes,
But I trust not, dare not, meet him in the shadows here again;
For I could not turn away and leave that pleading look and tone,
And the sorrow of his parting would be bitter as my own.

In the dim and distant ether the first star is shining through,
And another, and another! trembles softly in the blue:
Should I linger but one moment in the shadows where I stand,
I shall see the vine-leaves part, with a quick, impatient hand.

But I will not wait his coming! he will surely come once more;
Though I said I would not meet him, I have told him so before;
And he knows the stars of evening now me standing here again—
Oh, he surely will not leave me now to watch and weak in vain!

'Tis the hour, the time of meeting! in one moment he will be past;
And last night he stood beside me, was that blessed time the last?
I could better bear my sorrow, could I live that parting over;
Oh, I wish I had not told him that I would not come over more!

Could that hour been the night-wind moved the branches (too apart?
Did I hear a coming footstep, or the beating of my heart?
No! I hear him, I can see him, and my weak resolves are vain;
I will fly, but to his 'come, and to leave it not again!

THE LONELY HEART.

BY SARAH STICKNEY.

They tell me I am happy—and I try to think it true;
They say I have no cause to weep, my sorrows are so few;
In the wilderness we travel, mine is a favor'd lot;
My petty grief's all fantasies, would I but heed them not.

It may be so; the cup of life has many a bitter draught,
Which those who drink with silent lips have smiled on while they quaffed.
It may be so; I cannot tell what others have to bear,
But sorry should I be to give another heart my share.

They bid me to the festive board, I go a smiling guest,
Their laughter and their revelry are torture to my breast;
They call for music, and there comes some old familiar strain;
I dash away the starting tear, then turn—and smile again.

But oh! my heart is wandering back to my father's home,
Back to my sisters at their play, the meadows in their bloom,
The blackbird on the scented thorn, the murmuring of the stream,
The sounds upon the evening breeze, like visions in a dream;

The watchful eyes that never more shall gaze upon my brow
The smiles—oh! cease that melody, I cannot bear it now!
And bend not when the strange sight, nor mark the tears that start,
There can be no companionship for loneliness of heart!

Selected Tale.

FROM THE UNION MAGAZINE.

HOME AND POLITICS.

BY L. MARIA CHILD.

At the bend of a pleasant winding road, under the shade of a large elm, stood a small school house. It was a humble building; and the little belfry on the top seemed hardly large enough for the motions of the cow-bell suspended there. The elm formed a picturesque feature in the landscape. The elm drooped over it with uncommon gracefulness, and almost touched the belfry with its light foliage. The weather-beaten moss-grown shingles were a relief to the eye of the traveller, weary of pain erasing white houses. Moreover, a human soul had nestled on the little place a pastoral poem in vines and flowers. A white rose bush covered half one side, and carried its offering of blossoms up to the little bell. Cypress vines were trained to meet over the door, in a Gothic arch, surmounted by a Cross. On the western side the window was shaded with a profusion of Morning Glories and a great rock, that jutted out into the road, was thickly strewn with Iceland Moss, which in the Spring-time covered it with a carpet of yellow stars.

It was at that season it was first seen by George Franklin, a young New York lawyer, on a visit to the country. He walked slowly past, casting a the noble elm slightly waving its young foliage to a gentle breeze. Just then, out poured a flock of children of various ages. Jumping and laughing they joined hands and formed a circle round the elm. A clear voice was heard within the school house, singing a lively tune, while measure strokes on some instrument of his marked the time. The little band whirled round the tree, stepping to the music with the rude grace of childhood and joy. After ten or fifteen minutes of this healthy exercise, they stopped, apparently in obedience to some signal. Half of them held the hands said, and formed arches for the other half to jump through. Then they described swift circles with their arms, and leaped high in the air. Having gone through their simple code of gymnastics, away they scampered, to seek pleasure after their own fashion, till summoned to their book again. Some of them lowed and courtesied to the traveller, as they passed; while others, with arms round each other's necks, went hopping along, first on one foot, then on the other, too busy to do any more than nod and smile as they went by. Many of them were patched garments, but hands and face were all clean. Some had a stolid animal look; but even these seemed to run the cold nature in the rays of beauty and freedom, which they found only at school. The whole scene impressed the young man very vividly. He could hardly say it could not be always thus, in the family, in the school, everywhere. Why need man forever be a foil to Nature? Why must he be coarse and squalid, and gross and heavy, while Nature is ever radiant with fresh beauty, and purity with her overplus of life? Then came sadder thoughts how other influences of life, counsels, parents, and fellow employers, and the hard struggle for daily bread, would overshadow the genial influences of that pleasant school, which for a few months guided the lives of these little ones.

When he repassed the spot some hours after, all was still, save the occasional twittering of birds in the tree. It was sunset, and a bright harvest gleam shone across the moss-covered on the rock and made the little flowers in the garden smile. When he returned to the city, the scene often troubled his mind as a lovely picture, and he longed for the artist's skill to reproduce it visibly to its rustic beauty. When he again visited the country after midsummer, he remembered the little old school-house, and one of his earliest excursions was a walk in that direction. A profusion of crimson dahlias, and white asters, now peeped out among fringed foliage of the Cypress vines, and the little front yard was one bed of blossoms. He leaned over the gate and observed how neatly every plant was trained, as if some loving hand tended them carefully every day. He listened, but could hear no voices; and curiosity impelled him to see how the little building looked within. He lifted the latch, peeped in, and saw that the room was empty. The rude benches and the white-washed walls were perfectly clean. The windows were open on both sides, and the air was redolent with the balmy breath of mignonette. On the teacher's desk was a small vase, of Grecian pattern, containing a few flowers tastefully arranged. Books were lying in order, and one had an ivory finder to keep the leaves, as if recently used. It was Bettine's Letters to Gundrode, and, where it opened at the ivory finder, he read these lines, continued in pencil marks: "All that I can do for children is without Magnetic sympathy, without fire-will, are not given to the nourishment of their souls. A shrieb yoke is put upon them. The living impulse, full of buds, is not entered. No outlet will they give for Nature to reach the light. Rather must a man be woven, in which each moral is a projecture. Not not a child's world within, where could he take refuge from the deluge of folly that is poured over the building wooden carpet? Nowhere have I before the destiny of each child, what up to another a bud. One feels interested in touching a young bud, which the Spring is smelling."

The young man smiled with pleased surprise for he had not expected to find such a union of such sentiments in the leaves of a schoolmaster's school. He took up a volume of Mary Howitt's Birds and Flowers, and saw the name of Alice White written in it. Quaint black spaces were found scattered among fine leaves, and small bits of gummy leaved moss. He glanced at the low ceiling and the rude benches. "This seems not set up against the temple for such a spirit," thought he. "In fact, after all, what consequence is that, since [illegible] pencil from his pocket, and marked in Bettine's Letters: "Then hast feeling for the every-day life of nature. Dwelling with the and evening clouds give thy days dominion, with whom thou found friend one when or one is absent with thee. Let me be thy scholar in simplicity."

He wrote his initials on the page. "Perhaps I shall never see this young teacher," thought he; "but what it will be a little mystery in his unerring life to conjecture what useless eye has been peeping into her books." Then he queried with himself, "How do I know she is a young teacher?"

He stood leaning against the window, looking on the bells of flowers, and the rose leaves brushed his hair, as the breezes played with them. They seemed to say that a young heart planted them. He remembered the clear, feminine voice he had heard humming the dancing-tune in the Spring time. He thought of the manner and form in the book.

"Oh, yes, she must be young and beautiful," thought he. "She cannot be otherwise than beautiful with such taste." He stood for some moments in half dreaming reverie. Then a bound smile went over his face. He was making fun of himself. "What consequence is it to me whether she be either beautiful or young?" said he, inwardly. "I must be hungry for an adventure to indulge so much curiosity about a country school-mistress."

The smile was still on his face, when he heard a light step, and Alice White stood before him. She blushed to see a stranger in her little sanctuary, and he blushed at the awkwardness of his situation. He apologized by saying, that the beauty of the little garden, and the tasteful arrangement of the vines, had attracted his attention, and, perceiving that the school-house was empty, he had taken the liberty to enter. She readily forgave the intrusion, and said she was glad if the humble little spot refreshed the eyes of those who passed by, for it had given her great pleasure to cultivate it. The young man was disappointed, for she was not at all like the picture his imagination had painted. But the tones of her voice were flexible, and there was something pleasing in her quiet but timid manner. Not knowing what to say, he bowed and took leave.

Several days after, when he had first visit was drawing to a close, he felt the need of a long walk, and a pleasant vision of the winding road and the little school-house rose before him. He did not even think of Alice White. He was ambitious, and had well nigh resolved never to marry, lest it should retard his fortunes. He admitted to himself that grace and beauty might easily be which him, and turn him from his product purpose. But the poor country teacher was not beautiful, either in face or figure. He had no thought of her. But to vary his route somewhat, he passed through the woods, and there he found her gathering mosses by a little brook. She recognized him, and he stopped to help her gather mosses. Then it happened that they fell into a discussion together, and the more he listened, the more he was surprised to find so rare a jewel in so plain a setting. Her thoughts were so fresh, and were so simply said! And now he noticed a deep expression in her eye, imparting a more elevated beauty than is ever derived from form or color. He could not define it to himself, still less to others; but she charmed him. He lingered by her side, and when they started at the school-house gate, he was half in hopes she would invite him to enter. "I expect to visit this town again in the Autumn," said he; "May I hope to find you at the little school-house?"

She did not say whether he might hope to find her there; but she answered with a smile, "I am always here. I have adopted it for my home, and tried to make it a pleasant one, since I have no other."

All the way home his thoughts were occupied with her; and the memory of her simple, pleasant, quiet, often recurred to him amid the noises of the city. He would easily have forgotten her in the tumult of their acquaintance, had any beautiful citizen happened to cross his path; for though his nature was kindly, and had a touch of romance, ambition was the predominant trait in his character. But it chanced that no woman attracted him very powerfully, before he again found himself on her winding road where stood the picturesque little school-house. Then came frequent walks and accidental interviews, which strengthened the impression of mind and character that he had previously supposed. Alice was one of those peculiar persons whose history sets at naught all theories. Her parents had been illiterate, and coarse in manners, of she was gentle and refined. They were strictly devoid of imagination, and she was everything in the sunshine of poetry. "Who is the child like? Where did she get her queer notions?" were questions they could never answer. They had other, she was fourteen; and she, untaught and undisciplined, went into a factory to earn money to educate herself. Alternately at the factory and at school, she passed four years. Thanks to her stable mother, she was quick and skilful with her needle, and knew wonderfully well how to make the most of small means. She had travelled long unassisted through the by-paths of life, seeking in birds and flowers and little children, and feeding sufficient stimulus to constant industry in the love of serving others, and the prospect of now of then a pretty vase, or some agreeable book, first, affectionate communion, that beauty and rare, were the great attractions to her soul. Hence, she longed inexpressibly for a home, and was always striving to realize her ideal in such rude imitations as the little school-house. The neighbors said she hoarded close disputed with each other, and, being of rude natures, not all Alice's unsoaring and obliging ways could quite atone to them for her native superiority. In the solitude of the little school house she sought refuge from things that troubled her. There she spent some of the hours of her life, and found peace on the bosom of nature. Poor, and without personal beauty, she never dreamed that domestic love, at all resembling the pattern in her own mind, was a thing she could ever realize. Scarcely had the surface of her heart been tremulous with even passing excitement on the subject, till the day it gathered mosses in the wood with George Franklin. When he looked into her eyes, to see if he could read their depth expressed, she was tinged by the earnestness of his glance. Habitually humble, she did not venture to indulge the idea that she could ever be beloved by him. But when he thought of his promised visit in Autumn, his heart sometimes fluttered before her, of how she would be in a tasteful little home, with an intelligent companion. Always it was a *little* home. None of her ideas partook of grandeur. He was a pastoral poet, not an epic.

George did come, and they had many pleasant walks in beautiful October, and crowned each other with garlands of bright autumnal leaves. Their acting betrayed mutual affection; and soon after George wrote to her thus: "I frankly acknowledge to you that I am ambitious, and had fully resolved never to marry a poor girl. But I love you so much, I have no choice left. And now, in the beautiful light that dawns upon me, I see how mean and selfish was that resolution, and how impolitic withal. For it is not happiness we all seek? And how apply it well make me to fulfil your long cherished dream of a tasteful home! I cannot help receiving from you more than I can give; for your nature is richer than mine. But I believe, dearest, it is always more blessed to give than to receive; and then two think as of each other, what more need [illegible]

[illegible] Alice, joyfully dismissed her fears, and became his wife.

Rich beyond conception in a sense who is loved by an intelligent woman, as full of home-affections! Especially if she has learned humility, and gained strength, in the school of early hardship and privation. But it is only beautiful souls who have such treasure in adversity. In lower natures it engenders discontent and envy, which change to pride and extravagance in the hour of prosperity. Alice had always been made happy by the simplest means; and now, though her husband's income was a moderate one, her intuitive taste and capable fingers made his home a little bower of beauty. She seemed happy as a bird in her cozy nest; and so grateful, that George said, half in jest, half in earnest, he believed women loved their husbands as the only means society left them of procuring houses over which to preside. There was some truth in the remark; but it pained her sensitive and affectionate nature, because it intruded upon her the idea of selfishness mingled with her love. Thenceforth, she said less about the external blessings of a home; but in her inmost soul she enjoyed it, like an earthly heaven. And George seemed to enjoy it almost as much as herself. Again and again he said he had never dreamed domestic companionship was so rich a blessing. His wife, though far less educated than himself, had a nature capable of the highest cultivation. She was always an intelligent listener; and her quick intuitions often understood far more than he had expressed or thought. Poor as she was, she had brought better furniture for his home than embroidery chairs and marble tables.

Smoothly glided a year away, when a little daughter came into the domestic circle, like a flower brought by angels. George had often laughed at the credulous fondness of other parents, but he really thought his child was the most beautiful one he had ever seen. In the countenance and movements he discovered all manner of rare gifts. He was sure she had an eye for color, an eye for form, and an ear for music. She had her mother's deep eye, and would easily inherit her quiet, affectionate nature; but her father's energy and ambition, and her mother's sweetness, would make a noble union of elements of strength. His whole soul seemed bound up in her existence. Scarcely the mother herself was more devoted to all her infant wants and pleasures. Thus happy were they, with their simple treasures of love and thought, when in evil hour a disturbing influence crossed their threshold. It came in the form of political excitement; that pestilence which is fearfully raging through our land, seeking whom it may devour; destroying happy homes; turning aside our intellectual strength from the calm and healthy pursuits of literature or science, blinding consciences, embittering hearts, rasping the tempers of men, and blighting half the talent of our country with its feverish breath.

At that time, our citizens were much excited for and against the election of General Harrison. George Franklin threw himself into the melee with firm and honest conviction that the welfare of the country depended on his election. But the support and interest of his wife and child were among the rivals for his thoughts and actions; and this generous order for the nation's good, gradually opened over a perspective of flattering prospects for himself. By the study and industry of years, he had laid a solid foundation in his profession, and every year brought some increase of income and influence. But he had the American impatience of slow growth. Distinguished in some way he had always wished to be; and no avenue to the desired object seemed so short as the political race course. A neighbor, whose temperament was peculiarly prone to these excitements, came in often and invited him to clubs and meetings. When Alice was left alone, she would sit musing with the hope of passing one of their old pleasant evenings, she had a nervous dread of hearing the door bell, lest this man should enter. It was not that she expected or wished her husband to sacrifice ambition and enterprising decision, to the duties of patriotic duty, to her quiet habits. But the excitement seemed an unhealthy one. He lived in a species of mental intoxication. He talked louder than formerly, and doubled his fists in the vehemence of gesticulation. He was restless for newspapers, and watched the arrival of mails, as he would once have watched every day for a letter of his child. All calm pleasures became tame and insipid. He was more and more away from home, and staid late in the night. Alice at first sat up to wait for him, but finding that not conducive to the comfort of their child, she gradually dropped the habit of retiring to rest before his return. She was always careful to leave a comfortable arrangement of the fire, with his slippers in a warm place, and some slight refreshment prettily laid out on the table. The first time he came home and saw these silent preparations, instead of the affectionate face that usually greeted him, it made him very sad. The rustic school house, with its small belfry, and its bright little garden-plot, rose up in the perspective of memory, and he retraced one by one all the incidents connected with it. Far and serene came the angels of life out of the paradise of the past. They smiled upon him and asked, "Are there any like us in the troubled path you have now chosen?" With these retrospections came some self-reproaches; and a little kind affectionate word, or look, and professional duties neglected, under the influence of political excitement. He spoke to Alice with unusual tenderness that night, and reluctantly promised that when this election was fairly over, he would withdraw from active participation in politics. But this feeling soon passed away. The nearer the result of the election approached, the more intensely was his whole being absorbed in it. One morning, when he was reading the newspaper, little Alice footed and cried. He said, impatiently, "I wish you would carry that child away. Her noise disturbs me."

Tears came to the mother's eyes, as she answered, "She is not well; poor little thing! She has taken cold."

"I am sorry for that," he replied, and hurried to go out and exult with his neighbor concerning the political tidings.

At night, the child was unusually peevish and restless. She toddled up to her father's knees, and cried for him to take her to bed to sleep. He had taken her in his arms, and laid her little head upon his bosom, when the neighbor came for him to go to a political supper. He said the male that night must bring news that would decide the question. The company would wait for their arrival, and then have a jubilee in honor of Harrison's success. The child cried and screamed, when George put her away into the mother's arms; and he said sternly, "Naughty girl! Father don't love her when she cries."

"She is not well," replied the mother, with a trembling voice, and hurried out of the room.

It was two o'clock in the morning before George returned, but late as it was, his wife was sitting by the fire. "Hurrah for the old coon!" he exclaimed. "Harrison is elected!"

She threw herself on his bosom, and bursting into tears, sobbed out, "Oh, hush, hush, dear George! Our little Alice is dead!" Dead! and the last words he had spoken to his darling had been harsh and unkind! What would he not have given to recall them now! And her poor wife had passed through that agony without aid or consolation from him, alone in the silent midnight. A terrible weight oppressed his heart. He sank into a chair, drew the dear suffer to his bosom, and wept aloud.

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This great misfortune sadly dimmed the glory of his eagerly-anticipated political triumph. When the tumult of grief subsided, he reviewed the events of his life, and weighed them in a balance. More and more he doubted whether it were wise or right for one of his peculiar temperament, and